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there is little sign that they regard Tass describes Mr Yurchenko's

No. 29,772

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World news

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Croups,

51 Ap

e priktivit put pre-French win \$4bn **US Army** orld tin market k constitution for the st. Ber 700 to b

opted for French rather than Brit-ish technology in a \$4bn deal to buy a mobile battlefield communications system for the US Army. The decision was announced last

The decision was announced last night after months of fierce competition between Thomson, the French state-owned electronics group, and Plessey of Britain, who submitted rival bids a year ago.

The US accord with the French, adding up to probably the biggest ever US-European arms deal, represents a considerable rollingle and sents a considerable political and industrial setback for the UK Government Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher intervened personally in the late summer by writing to President Ronald Reagan to put forward

the British case.
The contract, under which 25 divisions of the US Army will be equipped with a coded computerised communications network, will boost Thomson's efforts to market the system elsewhere, both within and outside Nato.

Chilean protest starts Seventeen bombs exploded and

demonstrators disrupted public transport at the start of a 48-hour protest against Chile's military

Belgian bombings

An American bank in Charleroi and a Belgian-owned bank in Louvain were bombed. These follow two blasts in Belgian banks on Monday.

Soviet convoy attack

Afghan rebels blew up at least 28. trucks as a convoy of petrol tankers crossed the Hindu Kush on its way from the Soviet Union to Kabul, Western diplomats said.

Boesak restricted

South Africa withdrew the passport of anti-apartheid campaigner Rev Allan Boesak, despite a court ruling relaxing the terms of his bail.

Meanwhile, police began investigating the Cape Times, which publications of the court ruling but was firmer at DM 3.745 (DM member governments will fail to find the quick answer which its bankers, the metal traders of the lished an interview with Mr Oliver Tambo, exiled leader of the African National Congress. Page 4

Diplomat found dead

Mexican diplomat Manuel Portilla Quevedo was found shot dead along with his Mexican maid in his Moscow flat. Soviet authorities are investigating the deaths.

New water mines British firms have devised the first

underwater mine to be operated by sonar. This would enable friendly

ships to pass through mined waters. E. German protest

East Germany protested to Bonn that a West German destroyer ranged its guns on a merchant ship in the Baltic last week. Bonn denies

Barge sinks in fiord

Ten people were missing after a barge being used to build a floating concrete platform capsized in a

Norwegian fiord near Stavanger. Green N-plant A group of Austrian "Greens" and

artists is raising money to buy the unused Zwentendorf nuclear power

plant to turn it into an international ecology, peace and cultural centre.

New Times editor The new editor of The Times newspaper in London is to be Mr Charles Wilson, one of the paper's two deputy editors. He was chosen by a unanimous decision by the Times'

six independent directors. German ship released

A West German cargo ship detained by the Iranian navy was allowed to proceed to Kuwait after inspection revealed it had no cargo for Iraq.

Business summary

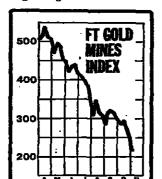
Hitachi to close Hiroshima shipyard

an Administration has HITACHI ZOSEN, leading Japa nese shipbuilder, announced plans to close its Hiroshima yard and lay off 5,000 of its 17,000 employees by the end of 1987, when current orders run out. Page 24

> WALL STREET: The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 6.99 at 1,396.67. Page 42

TOKYO recovered from early weak-ness and the Nikkei market average, down nearly 58 points at one stage, closed up 10.71 at 12,820.69. Page 42

LONDON equities closed at record levels despite late profit-taking. The FT Ordinary index rose 24 to a peak 1,073.5 and the FT-SE 100 in dex hit a fresh high of 1.383.7 with a gain of 2.8. Gilts were narrowly changed. Page 42



GOLD fell 50 cents on the London bullion market to \$324.75 and was also lower in Zurich at \$324.85. In New York the Comex December settlement was \$326.20. Page 34

DOLLAR was firmer in London, ris ing to DM 2.6135 (DM 2.586), SFr 2.151 (SFr 2.136), FFr 7.9675 (FFr 7.9125) and Y207.95 (Y297.75). On Bank of England figures the dol-BY STEFAN WÄGSTYL IN LONDON THE International Tin Council to-day resumes its emergency meeting on the world tin market crisis under take time to find solutions to the cess in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand, the leading tin producers. lar's exchange rate index rose from 129.0 to 129.4. Page 35 intense pressure to find ways of tives of European Community coun-

STERLING lost 80 points agains the dollar in London to finish at \$1.433. It also fell to Y298.0 (Y299.25) exchange rate index was un-changed at 80.2. Page 35

WEST GERMAN unemployme fell 2,758 to 2,15m last month but was still the highest October total on record. Page 3

IRELAND is heading for a budget deficit of more than 8 per cent of GNP this year, its highest ever, the Bank of Ireland said. Page 3

YUGOSLAVIA'S balance of payments improved sharply during this year's first nine months, with its current account now in the black by \$388m. However, its trade defici widened to \$1.26bn at the end of October, Page 3

RRITISH Petroleum has arranged credit lines for \$6.5bn following a strong response from banks to plans for reorganising its shortterm finances. Page 10

GENERAL ELECTRIC of the US is dropping production of air conditioners and axing 900 jobs at its Louisville plant in a further effort to move supply of household prod-ucts outside the company. It recently switched to buying in TV sets from Matsushita of Japan after stopping its own production.

BMW, West German car and motor cycle manufacturer, expects a fur-ther strong growth in sales this year. Nine-month sales were up 13.4 per cent to DM 13.5bn (\$5.15bn).

Page 21 RUPERT MURDOCH is to make public issue of shares in a company he has set up to buy seven US tele vision stations according to the New York Times. This will be the first public share issue he has made

NIPPON OIL, Japan's largest refiner and distributor, blamed failing demand from electric utilities as nuclear power plants came on-stream and slack market prices for half-year losses of Y7.23bn (\$34m).

Wide differences remain despite pre-summit talks

BY PATRICK COCKBURN IN MOSCOW AND REGINALD DALE IN WASHINGTON

TWO DAYS of intense discussions in Moscow between Mr George Shultz, US Secretary of State, and Soviet leaders ended yesterday without clearly paving the way for agreements at the Geneva summit

After 14 hours of meetings, first with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, So-viet Foreign Minister, and then with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, Mr Shultz confirmed that wide differences remained on the issues to be discussed by President Ronald Reagan and Mr Gorba-

Mr Shultz, saying that the ex-changes with Mr Gorbachev had been "vigorous," believed that the discussions had been useful in identifying issues and explaining each sides position.

Despite the friendly atmosphere at yesterday's meeting at which Mr Shultz was accompanied by Mr Robert McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, and Mr Paul Nitze, the President's arms adviser, there is little sign of the Soviet Union modifying its negotiating position in the lead-up to Geneva.

The Soviet side gave a preliminary reaction to the U.S. counter-of-hary reaction to the U.S. counter-of-fer on nuclear arms reduction year if he defected. He later met Mr tabled in Geneva last Friday, but Casey in person.

hundreds of millions of pounds.

worst, the ITC could collapse, leav-

funding the efforts of the tin coun-

nounced it had run out of money.

since October 24 when the ITC an- the total.

But there is every sign that the 22 views.

it as bringing agreement any closer. disappearance and re-emergence as
Mr Shultz did stress, however, an act of "state terrorism" carried
that this week's discussions, the out by a Government which fresummit and possible future meet-quently vows to end international ings showed that Moscow and terrorism. Weshington both wanted to keep in While the Reagan Administration remained privately angry and su-spicious over Soviet handling of the close contact on questions of mutu-

The case of the alleged Soviet defector, Mr Vitaly Yurchenko, was also discussed briefly, but it does not appear to have disrupted the exchanges. This seemed to confirm the meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev on November 19 and 20. changes. This seemed to confirm the view that both sides were working yesterday to defuse the affair well in advance of the summit. In Washington, however, the So-

viet embassy has strongly protested about the treatment of Mr Yurchen-ko which it described as "inhuman The state news agency, Tass, said that Mr Yurchenko was kidnapped, drugged and held for three months

before he managed to escape from his guards and reach the Soviet The report described how a senior assistant of Mr William Casey, the director of the Central Intelli-

Pressure grows for Tin

meeting its debts running into tries, which speak with one voice at hundreds of millions of pounds. the ITC, tried to co-ordinate their

bankers, the metal traders of the mitment to meet outstanding debts

London Metal Exchange and the was made. It was premature to British Government, have been show willingness to meet a share of

At best, it seems that the tin determined the extent of the liabili-

gress to make a positive, but bland, mats. One said: The question of

statement of intent by the end of who is responsible is open as far as

These debts have been built up, countries to back the initiative anding the efforts of the tin coun-launched last week by Mr Leon

cil, which administers a price pact Brittan, the Trade and Industry

between consuming and producing Secretary, who appealed to ITC

countries, to support in prices members to meet their obligations. above free market levels. Tin trading on the LME, the world's leading metals market, has been suspended meet its share, some 4 per cent of

the week and resume next week. At the community is concerned."

council could make enough pro- ties and who was liable, said diplo-

Council to resolve crisis

They agreed that an independent

the LTC debts before auditors had

It seems clear that the UK was

unable to convince fellow EEC

It remains to be seen whether Mr

needed before any com-

would probably be allowed to at-tend. The US. representatives would include a doctor to check that Continued on Page 20 U.S. fails to find Yurchenko conspiracy, Page 7

enko in a "non-coercive environ-

ing the US of his own free will.

US officials said that the inter-

le up with a positive respor

Sir Adam Ridley, the lenders'

bankers could place in any sover

eign government in its role as guar-

antor of any body such as the FIC,

Meanwhile at the LME, Mr

Jacques Lion, the board chairman,

said that the tin market, which has

been suspended for the rest of this

week at least, should not reopen un-

til arrangements have been met to

discharge the ITCs debts.

tees for its borrowings.

France to introduce fresh monetary policies

By David Marsh in Paris

THE FRENCH Government is to base its monetary policy next year on a wider definition of the money supply to keep pace with growing financial innovation in the economy.

The move, announced yesterday

by Mr Pierre Beregovov, the Finance Minister, also prepares the ground for controlling credit growth more by interest rates and less by the traditional French method of credit ceilings.

Money supply targets, up to now set for M2 - cash in circulation plus French residents' sight and deposit accounts – will for 1986 be defined according to a wider aggregate, M3. This will include deposits held with The State Dep tment said that the Soviet embassy in Washington the large, state-controlled savings had indicated its readiness to allow bank network as well as place-ments with France's rapidly ex-panding unit trusts and mutual US officials to interview Mr Yurchment because the US had demanded to check that he was leav-

In line with the Government's intention of keeping up a tight credit policy into the 1986 election year, the M3 growth target for next year is expected to be in the 3 to 5 per cent range, below the forecast 1988 view would be held outside the Soviet embassy, in an atmosphere in which Mr Yurchenko could not be coerced, although Soviet officials expansion of about 6 per cent in nominal gross national product.

The actual M3 targets will be an-

nounced in a few weeks. This year's 4 to 6 per cent growth rate target for M2 has been exceeded slightly. This reflects both relatively buoyant bank leading for consumer goods purchases and home buying and also modest inflows of foreign exchange into France this year.

The Finance Ministry and the Bank of France have already in practice been widening the net of monetary policy because of the ex-pansion of credit and liquidity into instruments not covered by M2. Although monetary policy will be cast in terms of M3, from next year the authorities will also be monitoring redefined narrower aggregates M1 and M2 as well as a wider measure of liquidity, L.

The redrawing of monetary defi-- Bankers will be disappointed nitions is designed to allow the with the EEC's apparent lack of urgency. The 16 financial institu-Bank of France the possibility of controlling credit through influentions which have lent more than cing bank reserves and through an "open market" policy of sales and £300m (\$432m) to the ITC, have set a deadline of Friday for the council Partly because of uncertainties conto their demands for more governnected with general elections next ment cash for the ITC and guaran-March, however, officials have made clear that there will be no sweeping changes next year in the present control system which relies man and a director of Habros Bank, said: "Time is of the esneavily on quantitative limits on insence." The ITC's actions had raised dividual banks' lending. the very wide question of the trust

Mr Beregovoy also announced vesterday more details of two financing innovations being introduced as part of gradual moves to

Continued on Page 20 | IBM and other companies whose

Jaruzelski set to assume presidency

of the Council of State, or Presi-

the General's belief that Poland has returned to normal after the uphea-vals of the Solidarity free trade union in the early 1980s.

of General Jaruzelski's power since the largely ceremonial Council of uthority as enjoyed by the Government.

Observers believe General Jarunet" rather on the French model. call by Solidarity.

GENERAL Wojciech Jaruzelski, Po- eral to transfer strategie economy land's Communist party chief, is to-day expected to relinquish his post will be taking Mr Kazimierz Barciof Prime Minister to become head kowski, presently the party's eco-of the Council of State, or Presi-nomic overlord, to the Council of State as his deputy.

The move, which should be approved by the newly appointed to be named today. He will then Parliament today, is seen to reflect present a new Cabinet to Parliament for approval during next

The reshullle represents the widest set of government changes since It will not mean any diminution the introduction of martial law in 1982. It precedes the Polish party congress, which will take place ear-State will be strengthened and will by next year and during which Genacquire strategic decision-making eral Jaruzelski is expected to consolidate the changes.

The moves also come after parliamentary elections last month, the zelski wants to upgrade the presid- first since martial law during which ency and reduce the collective role over two thirds of the electorate of Ministers to an executive "Cab- went to the polls despite a boycott

The changes will permit General Mr Jerzy Urban, the government Jaruzelski to relinquish direct responsibility for the day-to-day runtum that a 19-year-old student from ning of the country's economy. Cou- Olsztyn in northern Poland died as pled with his post of party chief, a result of a beating by police after General Jaruzelski's new job will being detained on October 19.

mean he will be able to retain effective political control of Poland.

The police have maintained that Mr Marcin Antonowicz threw hum-The present three-year economic self from a police lorry after being plan, drawn up in 1982 to stabilise arrested for drunken behaviour. Mr the country after a decline in the Urban said the "tragic" incident had previous year, comes to an end next been exploited by "political hyenas" month. That should enable the Genin the Western press.

British Telecom to buy IBM computers

BY GUY DE JONQUIERES IN LONDON

IBM of the US and other companies with IBM equipment. making computers designed to work with IBM equipment for most of the computer systems it plans to instal. That is part of a far-reaching modernisation of its customer service operations. The decision marks a shift in pro-

curement policy by BT, which has traditionally relied heavily on equipment manufactured by ICL. the only British-owned mainframe computer maker. Senior BT managers have criti-

Instead, BT announced yesterday that ICL would be awarded orders for seven of the 30 computer systems it plans to buy. The rest of the computers will be bought from

BRITISH TELECOM is turning to computers are "plug-compatible"

BTs computerisation

gramme, known as Customer Service System (CSS) is one of the largest in progress in Western Europe. It is due to be completed by 1990 and involves investments estimated at more than £200m (\$288m).

The ICL order, worth more than £50m, is for seven Series 39 mainframe computers and about 5,000 terminals. The Series 39, which was cised ICL's past performance and launched this year and was devel-wanted at one point to exclude the oped in collaboration with Fujitsu company completely from the latest of Japan, is ICL's most powerful

Mr Alan Roussel, managing director of ICL's UK business, said the order, the largest yet for Series 39 machines, was "the best news of

Continued on Page 20

A strong indication that it will Brittan's appeal met with more suc-

for 1985 of 384p, up 6p on the day.

During trading it had hit 372p.

Sainsbury, like Marks & Spencer counted for the bulk of turnover, marketing men call "added value" contributing £1.78bn to total group products such as convenience foods. sales up 14.6 per cent at £1.8bn (in-the chain, which launches 350 new chiding VAT payments of £82.5m).

BRITAIN'S biggest food and drink Other businesses include the retail group, J. Sainsbury, yester- Homebase Do It Yourself (DIY) as its Vintage Wine selection, an day showed it was maintaining its chain and the six SavaCentre hygrip on the British grocery business permarkets jointly owned with British grocery business permarkets jointly owned with British attacked the specialist off-licences.

Increased products such as its Vintage Wine selection, an area in which it has attacked the specialist off-licences.

Increased products such as its Vintage Wine selection, an area in which it has attacked the specialist off-licences.

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Increased products such as its Vintage Wine selection, an area in which it has attacked the specialist off-licences.

Increased products such as its Vintage Wine selection, an area in which it has attacked the specialist off-licences.

Sales volume growth in the su-In the fiercely competitive groc- permarkets was more than 9 per cent with new stores accounting for practices. ery retailing business, Sainsbury cent with new stores accounting for reported pre-tax profits of £92.4m a substantial part of this. In the cur-(\$133m) for the 28 weeks to October rent financial year live large stores i, compared with £75.1m for the have been opened as part of the same period last year.

The interim dividend is 1.65p per gramme. The group spent £246m in share against 1.4p for the first half, the last full year and is expected to

The group's 274 food stores ac- has been highly innovative in what

part from larger stores as well as

centre market, reported sales up 45 per cent to £48.6m with profits increasing from £0.3m to £1.6m. Three new stores were opened in the half year

Sainsbury supports relaxation of Sunday trading laws for DIY and what it calls "leisure centres" al-

nies contributed £72m to interim

Sainsbury profits rise 23% BY LISA WOOD IN LONDON

last year, an increase of 17.9 per exceed this in real terms this year. The group, recording a net marThe interim result drove up the
group's share price on the London
Stock Exchange to a closing high
and there had been further gains in

though the group is a little more

Lex, Page 20; Details, Page 26

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THE HEART OF THE CAPITAL? No, the centre of Swindon.

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Douglas Smith, Industrial Adviser, Civic Offices, Swindon. Tel (0793) 26161 or telex 444449. **ENTERPRISE**

I Dank of Scotland Money Market Cheque Account.

Greens plan to buy Austrian N-plant

By Patrick Blum in Vienna A GROUP of Austrian greens and artists is raising money to buy the unused Zwentendorf nuclear power plant to turn it into an international ecology, peace and cultural centre.
The group, colling itself linitiative Oesterreich 2025, says it will raise the money by issuing legal certificates of

Sch 100 (£3.50), Sch 500 and Sch 1.000. Mr Gerhard Heilinghrunner, a spokesman for the group, admitted yesterday that it did not hope to raise anything like the estimated Sch 14bn

invested in building and maintaining the plant.

"The costs of the plant have aiready been written off through taxes," he said. The group would be making a symbolic offer depending on how much it was able to raise. This could be up to Sch 10m, a fraction of the original costs, Mr Heiling-

brunner said.

The certificates will be on sale until January 1987 but Initiative Oesterreich hopes to start discussions with the plant's owners early next

Zwentendorf, Austria's only nuclear power plant, stands silent and grey on the banks of the Danube some 40 km of the Danube some 40 km west of Vienna. It was completed in 1978 but has remained unused after a referendum the same year came out narrowly against

commissioning it. Numerous attempts to overcome political and constitutional obstacles to reverse that decision have failed. In desperation the plant's management company decided in July to pursue offers by international companies for

its disposal.

The national electricity utility company which owns a majority shareholding in the plant was sceptical yesterday about Initiative Oesterreich's We have heard about this with some interest."

However, if the equipment

was sold off, there would be no reason for not selling the empty building, he added. The artists supporting the initiative include Mr Friedens-Hundertwasser, the celebrated and controversial Austrian painter, who has also campaigned against plans to build a hydro-electric power plant on the Danube.

David Marsh reports on a new industrial future for a depressed French town

Robots breathe life into Saint Etienne

THE CITY of Saint Etienne, in of Saint Etienne's most famous south-eastern France, badly hit symbols, the sprawling works of by the run down in steel and the Manufrance small arms by the run down in steel and by the run down in steel and the Manustance small arms group, lies barred and deserted, decade, is turning to robots for help in building a new industrial future.

At the recent opening of a robotics training centre on the site of a disused steelworks, a burly Swedish robot with a long pressed industrial regions, the arms of the Manustance small arms group, lies barred and deserted. The failure of a workers' coperative this summer ended a devesity to keep the factory alive.

As in many of Europe's department of the manustance small arms group, lies barred and deserted. The failure of a workers' coperative this summer ended a devesity to keep the factory alive.

As in many of Europe's depicted of the failure of a workers' coperative this summer ended a devesity to keep the factory alive.

orange arm, made by the Asca engineering group, waved flags enthusiastically. A smaller French welding robot helped Mr Francois Dubanchet, the mayor of Saint Etienne, to cut the traditional tricolour ribbon at the inauguration ceremony.

La Productique (coined by the French to describe the technology of flexible manufacturing systems) was "a word resound-ing with hope for the future." Behind the rhetoric is the realisation that France has no alternative but to take robotics seriously. Mr Victor Martino, director of the local engineering college, one of the three organi-sations taking part in the project, summed up the issues at stake: "If we fail in improving flexibility of production systems, there will be immense problems not only in Saint Etienne but in the whole of

Saint Etienne already has plenty of experience in facing up to difficulties. The city and its outskirts are pock-marked by closed mines and factories. One

BY DIANA SMITH IN LISBON

city's official unemployment rate of 13 per cent would be much higher if the figures counted the large numbers of former steel and metalworkers brought into early retirement. The setting up of the Maison

the inauguration ceremony.

One of the local politicians encouraging step, but it hold-participating in the lengthy opening speeches claimed that La Productique (coined by the and white bullding graces waste-land on which steelworks were first built in 1854. After successive ownerships, including the now-bankrupt Creusot Lorregroup, the site became vacanin 1981-83. It is now the focus of FFr 55m (£4.8m) investment scheme to build a high-technology in-

dustrial zone which will probably take a generation to bear About 25 per cent of the money is being put up by the state as part of government efforts to revitalise hard hit areas in "industrial conversion

zones" around the country. The rest of the cash is coming from a mixture of regional and local authorities. Mr Dubanchet,

a combative senator from the

office here today. A strongly

technocratic administration, it is expected to reflate the

depressed economy rapidly, cutting interest rates and

reducing personal and company taxes, and giving special atten-

tion to agriculture. The back-

wardness of the latter compels ortugal to import more than

The industrial north, hub of

private enterprise, is strongly

represented in the new Govern-

ment through two prominent Oporto figures: Mr Miguel Cadilhe, the Finance Minister,

• Prof Cavaco Silva: rapid

half its foodstuffs each year.

Cavaco Silva takes over in Portugal



centre-right UDF/CDS grouping who snatched power from the previous Communist mayor in 1983, says with satisfaction that Saint Etienne won the battle to host the robot centre against half a dozen rival towns in the region, including Lyons and Grenoble

About engineers. researchers and technicians will work at the centre, to bring local companies into closer contact with automated manufacturing systems and improve existing techniques. An impressive battery of robot manipu-lators and sophisticated machine tools have been bought, begged and borrowed to help demonstrate new technology.

The Maison de la Productique

was largely responsible

for the preparation of the Government's expansionist pro-

Meanwhile, Mr Victor Constancia, the governor of the

Bank of Portugal, and Mr Ernani Lopes, the outgoing Finance Minister, who had the uncomfortable task of imposing

two years of austerity to correct

the Social Democrats' excessive expansion in 1980-82, have

warned that reflation must be

moderate. Portugal cannot afford another bout of uncon-

trolled current account deficits

and foreign borrowing, they

With only 88 of the 250 seats

will host training courses for employees from the Rhone Alpes region and grant companies assistance on specific technical problems. It has already given advice on factory automation to companies manufacturing products ranging from ski-shoes and optical lenses to cardboard boxes, tiles

and cicarettes.
"Our role is to spread the gospel," says Mr Michel Barba. president of the state Adepa agency charged with developing robotics, which is taking part in the Saint Etienne scheme. The most optimistic esti-

mates give the high-tech indus-trial "park" around the train-ing centre about 10 years to develop. Nine small companies in areas such as micro-elec-

opposition from the Socialists and Communists. It will need

Renewal Party which supports the outgoing President, General

of the presidential election in mid-January, when the Social

Democrats plan to support the conservative candidate Professor Diogo Freitas do Amaral,

Antonio Ramaho Eanes.

tion in the spring.

tronics and software are already installed in a three-storey building on the site. The number is expected to grow to 25 as new buildings are added over the next few years. As a sign of efforts to encour-

ance worth FFr 300,000 a year.
M Christian Cabal, the city

official presiding over Saint Etienne's high-tech aspirations, is negotiating with IBM over a plan for the computer group to set up a training centre on the new industrial site. He also hopes the Thomson-CGE group will set up a software centre

"A lot of these people are difficult to re-utilise," admits M Cabal. "Even with training,

Ten drown as

PORTUGAL'S Social Democrat and Prof Luis Valente de in Parliament, the new adminis-Government, headed by Profes-sor Anibal Cavaco Silva, takes torial Administration Minister on its ability to weather strong TEN PEOPLE are missing, presumed drowned, after an oil platform construction ship capsized in the middle of a Norwegian fjord on Monday evening. Most were probably to negotiate tactical support from the Christian Democrats or the centre-left Democratic working inside a heavy container fastened to the ship's deck, which is believed to have fallen to the bottom of the fjord when the vessel over-Until the outcome is known

Twelve other workers on board were thrown into the water, and rescued soon after-None of them seriously injured.

the Government cannot be sure of its long term durability. A victorious Socialist or other left-wing candidate is likely to to serve as a platform for mixing call another snap general elec-Gandsfjord, near Stavanger, sent. The committee said there

age small business start-ups from the scientific community. the prestigious Ecole des Mines engineers' school in Saint Etienne launched a scheme this summer to ald would-be entrepreneurs to commercialise ideas developed in the laboraschool's research director, says storm in the Turkish press in four business projects are which he has been accused of under study in areas such as electronics or biotechnology which could benefit from assisting who will be guests at today's who will be guests at today's

will set up a software centre in the city.

However, such plans will do little to improve the outlook for workers laid off in traditional industries like the local Soma subsidiary of the Valco vehicle components group which has interpreted large. just announced large redun-

it is asking a lot to expect them to move across to robotics or software research."

ship capsizes

The ship, Concem. is a former bulk carrier, cut down, stripped of its machinery and converted concrete. It was moored in the

EEC report sours relations with **Turkey further**

AMBASSADORS of European Community nations in Ankara human rights but it had severe misgivings about tetture allegations in an attempt to improve relations with the Turkish press. It is not yet clear if the EEC's own representative in Ankara, Mr Gwyn Morgan, will attend.

He is consider Turking after a few report.

He is outside Turkey after a dinner have spent the past two weeks clamouring for his expulsion.

A report adopted some days ago by the European Parhament criticising Turkey over human rights lies at the heart of the

The Turkish press accuses Mr Morgan of writing the report which dashed hopes of an early rapprochement with the Community. What seems to have happened is that his dispatches relaying the confidential and unattributed opinions of Community ambassadors in Ankara were handed to a Turkish diplomat by an Ulster Unionist MEP, Mr John Taylor.

Mr Taylor last week told journalists that after he received the confidential Community document by mistake he passed it straight to the Turkish ambassador. He claims he was redirecting the documents to their original destination via the Turkish authorities.

The views of the ambassadors are likely to have ranged from those of embassies such as the Dutch and British which take an optimistic view of the Turkish situation to those of the Greeks which are less likely to

have been favourable. Extracts printed in the Turkish newspapers refer to "the junta" and use other terms which Turks consider

offensive.
The report adopted by the European Parliament was drawn up by a committee of MEPs headed by the British Socialist, Mr Richard Balfe. The Turkish Government refused all contact with the committee, as a result of which facilities were provided by the EEC's office in Ankara.

The Parliament is urged in the report not to reactivate its relations with Turkey at pre-

of the report. It is thought unlikely here that Mr Morgan would actually be expelled if he returns. But the 53-year-old diplomat has previously faced a gun threat and is known to be unhappy at the limited security provided

Quentin Peci adds from Brussels: The political row over Mr Morgan's letter comes at a time when relations between Turkey and the EEC are ad-mitted to be "extremely tense," according to Brussels officials.

The most immediate problem concerns strict limits imposed the Community on Turkish textile exports, especially T-shirts, after the collapse of negotiations in September for voluntary curbs.

However, looming over the relationship is the problem of free movement of Turkish workers, which has been promised by the EEC to come into effect in December, 1986, That undertaking was given in the 20-year-old association agreement with Turkey, but the Ten, led by West Germany, are desperate to renegotiate the clause to maintain some limit on the flow of Turkish migrant

FINANCIAL TIMES

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EUROPEAN NEWS

West German unemployment total declines

BY JOHN DAVIES IN FRANKFURT

WEST GERMAN unemployment The number of workers on remains a headache for the total a year ago and there are Bonn Government despite its more vacant jobs, especially for

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Perel adds he political rolling from the first come as a stational legistic first come from the first come and the first come from the first come

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sonn Government despite its optimism about the economy.

The number of people registered as out of work edged down from 2,151,560 to 2 148,800 or 8.6 per cent of the labour force, according to the Federal Labour Office. It is the third month in succession that up.

more vacant jobs, especially for skilled tradesmen.

Mr Martin Bangemann, the browners of the labour brushed aside repeated demands from trade union leaders for a boost to the economic force according to the following to provide more jobs. The only way to create lasting jobs month in succession that un- only way to create lasting jobs

The Government is fairly confident that the continued economic recovery will reduce unemployment further before the federal elections due early in 1987. But a hard core of unemployment is attributed to structural problems in some industries and some regions. Faw

In some ways the jobs market

eased slightly last month but short-time is less than half the nies, according to Mr Gerhard Stolt-

month in succession that unemployment has improved, although the total is still slightly higher than a year ago.

Unemployment has been above the politically embarrassing level of 2m for exactive three years.

The Government is fairly conyear. Consumer spending, which has been one of the economy's weak spots, would also gather nace.

gather pace.
Figures released yesterday Figures reseased yesusrday showed that industrial production, seasonally-adjusted, was unchanged in September, but it is thought the figures for both Aument and September may be dustries and some regions. Few experts see an easy or quick solution to this.

Economic forecasts about the has obviously improved. With production picking up, jobs have been created, offsetting an increase in the labour force.

Economic forecasts about the economy are generally good, suggesting that gross national product will increase by about 3 per cent next year.

Cashless shopping system to expand next year

BY LESLIE COLITY IN BERLIN

WEST GERMANY'S first cash- taken place under the auspices less shopping experiment is to of the Gesellschaft Fuer Zah-be greatly expanded next year lungssysteme (GZS) in Frank-in West Berlin and Munich, furt to which all West German according to its initiator, the banks belong. Berliner Bank. The system, The reading called ec-kasse, uses the ubiquitous Eurocheque card issued by banks in some 20 European countries.

The customer keys in the personal identification number of his Eurocheque card which is passed through a reading device. Within 30 seconds funds are transferred from the card-holder's account to that of the retailer.

The "banking point-of-sale" experiment began last December after Berliner Bank, which is mainly city-owned, joined with banks in Munich to launch ec-kasse. The experiment has

nected to Nixdorf integrated cash and stock terminals installed with 20 retailers in West Other manufacturers in West

will produce simple terminals by next February to enable cashless shopping to be ex-panded to retailers who are interested only in the "bank-ing point-of-sale" equipment.

Last month, the 20 participating retailers in the two cities recorded 6,100 sales total-

Bonn hopes privatisation will raise DM 2bn

THE WEST GERMAN Governmen expects income of DM 2bn (\$769m) in the next two years from partenberg, Finance Minister, Reuter reports from Bonn.

In an interview with the newspaper Schleswig-Holsteinische Landeszeitung, he said income for next year was projected at DM 400m and the rest was expected in 1987. He did not rule out partprivatisation of Salzgitter, the steel and engineering group, in the next legislative period beginning early in 1987. Salzgitter is expected to break

even next year after heavy losses. The Government officially plans to part-privatise six companies, in-cluding Lufthansa, the national airline, before the end of the present Parliament. The Government said only alt

minium, chemicals and energy group VIAG and Prakla-Seismos, an energy exploration company, were expected to be part-privatised next year. Bonn will cut its 87.4 per cent stake in VIAG by at least quarter and have the company listed on bourses.

The Government's plans for Prakia-Seismos, in which it has a direct 95 per cent stake, are less clear but it will initially retain a

substantial holding. Mr Stoltenberg's aim of reducing Bonn's 74.3 per cent direct stake in Lufthansa to about 55 per cent has so far been blocked by Mr Franz Josef Strauss, the Bavarian premier and leader of the Christian Social Union Party in the centre-right coalition. Any progress on the issue will require top-level coalition talks which have yet to be scheduled, the Government said.

Other government sources said revenue from next year's moves would not reduce Bonn's 1986 new net borrowing target of DM 25bn unchanged from this year - because coal subsidies would have to be in-creased as a result of the dollar's sharp drop since the 1986 budget was drafted. The subsidies are paid to steel

prices bigger than initially expected

makers to compensate them for the extra cost of buying German coking coal, as they are obliged to do under an agreement with the coal company Ruhrisohle, rather than cheaper coal from the world market. The dollar's fall has made the gap between West German and world

Eureka consensus on need for state help

organisation of Eureka and

finalised for the formal endorsement of several specific projects, which will set Eureka rolling in earnest. France last night submitted five schemes, involving government support, on which work can start at once. Others are expected today.

They include ventures in the fields

of computers, lasers, the environment However, despite the political momentum clearly gathering behind the idea, the foreign and technology ministers here were still struggling to dispel widespread scepticism, not least in West Germany itself, that Eureka really will give new impetus to Europe's efforts to keep technologically abreast of the US and Japan.

MINISTERS FROM 18 countries Britain which hitherto has been ture of the Eureka scheme and want it to have the authority forums, or workshops, within yesterday attempted to put the most dogmatic advocate of aside differences over the market forces, now recognise accepted the need for state needed for projects, particularly is the removal of trade barriers finance, if required, to back those of a longer-term and in Europe, "A genuine common finance, if required, to because individual projects in the riskier nature. But none, with market (which the European bigh technology co- France, yet seems ready to allot crucial to the success of closer technological co-operation," Mr At the same time, plans were being in existing national research Kohl declared. and development programmes.

In his opening address here to the ministerial conference the second of its kind after Eureka's political launch in Paris in July-Chancellor Hel-mut Kohl declared Bonn's readiness to provide state support for individual projects.

"This is also necessary to give European componies a fair EEC will interlock—as well as

chance in competition with their foreign counterparts, who have

schnologically abreast of the their own ventures."

The Hanover gathering is Eureka sheemes, But the Benc- In the meantime, Britain is sponsors are not excluded from All participants, including essentially to settle the struc- lux countries, as well as Italy, pressing its idea of industrial a related scheme being hatched

move ahead. A key ingredient in Europe, "A genuine common market (which the EEC hopes

Although Eureka also embraces six countries outside the recently enlarged EEC, the Chancellor emphasised that the scheme should not bypass exist-ing Community structures, such as the Esprit programme but be complementary to them.

that of what agency, if any, should co-ordinate it-remained the benefit of generous state sponsored programmes." But, he insisted, "we feel it is basic-ally up to companies to finance officials now call it. Few here doubt that some

unit, or "task force" as British officials now call it, will emerge

establish a framework within to guarantee real "transparency" which promising projects can and to keep all potential part and to keep all potential part-ners informed of what projects are in hand. They also want it to be linked to the Commission in Brussels.

Larger countries, like West to keep any central agency as small as possible, and shy away from the notion of a full scale said that most countries
lawred a "flexible approach," while recognising the fears among smaller and less advanced countries of being left out.

The likelihood last the fears among smaller and less advanced countries of being left out.

out.
The likelihood last night was that despite the pressure for speedy agreement of the secre-tariat problem, it would in practice be left open here to be settled in time for the third ministerial conference Eureka, due in London next

which interested companies can develop Eureka projects. One such, called PENSA, covering local area computer networks, will be examined for a second time in London this December Germany and the UK, are keen by 18 companies from West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, France and the UK. In all, some 300 projects have

> A further 60 or so are in Category Two, where industrial contacts have taken place but no solid agreements reached. The remainder of the 300 constitute merely a "wish list" of future collaboration possibil-ties. Many, officials say, have been tabled mainly so that their

Tickets for Chinese get-together prove hard to sell

AN URGENT appeal went out vesterday from the corridors of the European Commission in Brussels: find us the miss-ing exporters. Some 25,000 glossy invitations have been sent out to businessmen throughout the Community, urging them to spend Ecu 1,000 (£590) a head to attend a high-powered business week with a 180-strong delegation from China armed with hagsful of propose joint ventures. So far, only 120 companies have said they will come,

leaving the EEC ranks in danger of being outnumbered by their Chinese counter-parts. Now the Commission has launched a new effort to attract potential exporters to the event expecially from the event, especially from France and West Germany where they have been slowest to come forward.

"They are not coming here for sightseeing," said Mr Louis Kawan, the Euro-pean Commission director responsible for relations with China. "These people intend to do business. They will only do business with people they know, and they are hoping to visit European factories after the event."

The Chinese delegation is being headed by Zhang Jinfu. state counsellor in the Chinese Government, and Jir Chi, vice minister responsible for foreign economic relations and trade. The rest of the party includes technical experts from several Chinese provinces, such as Hunan,

Hubel, Liaoning and Jiang

Su. Mr Kawan said that only 30 of the members of the group had booked return flights to China, in the expectation that they would be able to follow up the business week, from December 2 to 7, with indi-vidual factory visits. They would be coming with a list of more than 250 investment and technology transfer projects to negotiate.

The most interesting area European involvement

was in modernising small and was in modernising small and medium-sized Chinese enter-prises, he said. A key part of the business week—the second such event organised by the Commission in five years—was to provide plenty of opportunity for informal contacts, with time set aside for frequent coffee breaks and cocktaits. and cocklails.

As for the expense of the occasion, he said: "Any business which cannot afford Ecu 1.000 to attend, cannot hope to do business in China."

Record budget deficit forecast for Ireland

BY HUGH CARNEGY IN DUBLIN

IRELAND is heading for a 88 per cent of the estimate for charges—1£800m in interest are the only way to curb the budget deficit of more than 8 the year. Less than forecast and 1£916m in principal this deficit and it adds that improved budget deficit of more than 8 the per cent of gross national pro- VA duct this year, the highest ever, the Bank of Ireland reports to- main culprits.

could become intolerable.

In its latest quarterly bulto 12.4 per cent in 1984. The letin, the central bank says the budget deficit in the first nine smonths of this year reached up of external debt.

IELOSOM (£893m), more than The bank says external debt.

the year. Less than forecast VAT receipts and higher than expected wage increases are the

day. The resulting surge in the government by the sector pay, government borrowing needs requirement for 1985 is set to battle over public sector pay. The unions have already staged the target of just over the unions have already national must be countered by rigorous exceed the target of just over spending cuts or debt charges If2bn. It will equal more than I£2bn. It will equal more than one successful one-day national

and 1£916m in principal this year-are " a major impediment to employment prospects." The report comes as the

stoppage in their campaign to break government pay targets expected to be around 3 per

The bank says external debt spending cuts, not tax increases, cent for the year.

tax collection promised by the Government would only have marginal effects.

The bank says the inflation rate is likely to fall to 5.5 per cent this year and the current account deficit will decline to 12550m from 12837m last year. But GNP growth for 1985 has been revised down to 1 per cent from 1.5 per cent with unemployment, the highest in The Bank of Ireland says the EEC, averaging 17.5 per

Yugoslavia back in the black

YUGOSLAVIA'S balance of payments improved markedly during this year's first nine months, buoyed by earnings from tourism, services and other invisible trade, National Bank figures showed yesterday, Reuter reports from Belgrade.
They show Yugoslavia's current account was in the black by \$388m (£277m), compared with a \$77m deficit from January to July.

But the country's trade deficit

—widened to \$1.26bn at the end of October.

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Companies urged to join SDI

BY PETER MARSH

COMPANIES from Western Europe should get involved in the US Strategic Defence Initiative (Star Wars) not just to seek quick profits, but also to keep up with the latest in exotic technology, Dr Julian Davidson, a leading US defence expert, said in London yesterday.
Dr Davidson, who is responsible for strategic defence activities at

Booz, Allen and Hamilton, a US company of consultants, told a Financial Times conference on SDI and Eureka that participation in the programme could help Euro-pean companies gain insights into a range of technologies such as com-puters, optics and materials.

In many cases, says Dr Davidson, the research could find other military and commercial applications unconnected with the Star Wars goal of designing a defensive shield to screen the West from Soviet mis-

European companies should try several different approaches to participating in the project, said Dr Davidson, who formerly worked for the US Army on defences against ballistic missiles and whose com-pany is helping define the basic shape of an operational Star Wars

One avenue would be to arrange joint ventures with US contractors already working on Star Wars. Another technique could be to send employees for limited periods to US submarines, could have an impact with homing sensors by using elec-Government weapons laboratories, on developments in anti-aircraft tromagnetic forces produced by such as Los Alamos, where they weapons, armour for tanks and oth- giant pulses of electricity.

FINANCIAL TIMES SDI and Eureka CONFERENCE

SDI approaches.

Mr Earle Williams, president of BDM International, a US defence systems company, said European companies seeking contracts under the SDI would face strong competi-tion from American military equipment contractors.

He said, however, that Western Europe has expertise in areas such as electro-optical devices, which could form the building blocks of new, fast optical computers; artificial intelligence and super-computers. Western Europe also has skills in lasers, rocket propulsion satellites, high-energy accelerators and metals research.

Mr Williams said the Star Wars programme, on which the US plans to spend \$33bn by 1990, would pro-vide technical advances to benefit conventional military systems.

For instance, techniques to defend cities from short-range nuclear weapons, such as those fired from

er vehicles and new weapons systems for aircraft and ships. The SDI techniques of relevance to these areas would include new satellite surveillance systems and novel forms of missiles that are

fired by chemical rockets and guided by their own microscopic sensing devices, Mr Williams said. Mr Michael Clark, deputy chairman of Plessey, told the conference he supports the idea of a strategic

defence against nuclear weapons. He said future wars are probably inevitable and that he would rather see them fought in outer space. with the battles involving devices such as laser weapons and battle-management satellites, than on the Mr Jean-Louis Gergorin, senior

vice president for corporate strate-gy at Matra, the French aerospace and defence company, said he would like to see Western Europe start its own military-oriented re-search programme that would be separate from both the SDI and Eureka, the proposed pan-European research project expected to concentrate on civilian technologies.

Mr Gergorin said the research programme could encompass microelectronics, advanced sensors. image analysis, military computers and software. Other activities could involve exotic weapons such as guns which accelerate small pellets

Mr John Holt, managing director of the space and communications division of British Aerospace, said any company interested in innovation would want to participate in both the SDI and Eureka.

Participation, however, posed some problems, Mr Holt said. For instance, it consumes manpower in projects where commercial successes are not guaranteed.

It also means sharing company expertise with other groups. That has given rise to the fear that companies could lose rights to commercialising new ideas by giving away their secrets to competitors. Eureka, said Mr Holt, should aim

at tangible goals and be the result of market pull rather than technology push. He reminded the audience that British Aerospace was as well equipped as any company to join such collaborative programmes. It craft, weapons and space technology with 25 companies in 17

Dr Raffaele Palieri, managing director of Telettra, the Italian telecommunications company, said that the Eureka project should be organised to complement the Star Wars programme and not to oppose it.

"The advantages for industry from the programme are lower risks attached to long term investment, enlargement of the market PLO should take part in any serious and generally improved competiss," said Dr Palieri.

Egypt holds | Indonesia 'positive talks' with PLO

By Tony Walker in Cairo

EGYPT EXPECTED a "positive re-sult" from its discussions with rep-resentatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, President Hosni Mubarak's senior adviser said yesterday after the first round Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman.

Dr Osama al-Baz, head of Mr
Muharak's political office, described the two hours of private talks between the Egyptian President and Mr Arafat - and a subsequent meeting between respective lelegations – as positive, fruitful

and satisfactory.

Mr Arelat, who is making his first state visit to Cairo since November, 1977 - just before the late has agreements in the area of air President Anwar Sadat went to Jerusalem to make peace with Israel has been accorded a subdued welcome in Egypt, reflecting Egyptian dismay at recent PLO guerrilla activities such as the hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro, which has slowed Middle East peace

> • King Hussein of Jordan, renew ing his call for an international conference on the Mixidle East, vesterday reaffirmed his belief that the

sacks hundreds of oil workers

Pertamina said the Government wanted to remove all people from what it called vital industries who might once have been associated with the PKI. The present Government blames the PKI for an attempted coup in

are said at one time 's have been members in mion associated with the analysis

Sri Lankan deficit

Loan for Zaire The World Bank will lend Zaire \$550m between 1986 and 1988, the bank's permancut representative in Kinshasa told Reuters. He said the sum included \$300m from the International Development Association and \$150m from the special fund launched by the World Bank for sub-Saharan Africa

Taiwan relaxes curbs THE Central Bank of Talwan exchange controls by allowing local and foreign individuals to participate in forward foreign exchange trans-actions, a bank official said, Reuter reports from Taipei. He said the move would help ease the pressure of rising foreign currency reserves, which total a record \$20.5bn.

South Korea expects a trade surplus of \$600m next year despite a \$1.1bn deficit in 1984 and a smaller shortfall this year, Mr Kum Jin-Ho, Trade Minister, sald in a report to President Chun Hwan, Reuter writes from Seoul. The Government to keep this year's

New Zealand budget New Zealand's budget deficit rose 34.9 per cent to NZ\$2.1bn (£827m) for the first six months of fiscal 1985-86 ending March against ending March against NZ\$1.5bn in the same 1984 period, government accounts show, Reuter reports from Wellington.

HUNDREDS of oil workers in Indonesia have been sacked for allegedly being associated at one time with the now hanned Indonesian Communist Party, the PKL Rieran Cooke reports from Jakarta, The state oil com-pany, Pertamina, said it had pany, Pertamina, said it had sacked the workers on the orders of military intelligence. It did not say exactly how many had been sacked but 637 have been told to leave one company alone—Caltex, the biggest foreign oil company working in Indonesia.

ndonesia in 1965. All the sacked oil workers

A steep rise in defence spending and depressed commodity prices have produced a record 30bn Sri Lankan rupees (£773m) deficit in the 1986 hudget, Mervyn de Silva reports from Colombo.

In the Appropriation Bill presented yesterday by Mr. Ronnie de Mel, the Finance Minister, the defence vote is

Minister, the defence vote is Rs 5.8hn as against Rs 2.7hn for the Mahaveli River development project and Rs 2.6hn for education. Last year's desence vote was less than Rs 3hn.

earlier this year.

It would also stimulate the local spot foreign exchange

S. Korea trade surplus trade deficit to \$300m.

Boesak's passport withdrawn as court is overruled

MR STOFFEL BOTHA, the South African Minister for Home Affairs, yesterday withdrew the passport of the Rev Allan Boesak, patron of the anti-apartheid United Democratic Front (UDF), in a move the street of the passage which virtually negated an earlier court decision to relax his bail conditions,

his bail conditions.

A provincial Cape court restored Mr Boesak's passport on Monday, part of a relaxation in bail terms which reduced the conditions of his bail from ten to three. Mr Boesak was arrested on August 28 for planning a march on Pollsmoor jail in support of jailed African National Congress (ANC) leader Mr Nelson Mandela, and released a month later on strict bail terms. bail terms.

Mr Boesak described the move as "an act of petty vindictive-ness and another sign that this Government has no respect for the court or the rule of law." He was due to fly to the U.S. to receive the Robert Kennedy Humanitarian Award later this month but his wife is now

expected to represent him Meanwhile, the police have begun investigating a possible charge of contravening the mext 18 months. The municipal

South Africa's financial rand continued to bear the brunt of foreign investors' lack of confidence as the restricted currency traded close to its new low level of 23.75 US cents yesterday before fracting to 23.50 cents. The market remains highly sensitive to small transactions given the limited size of the financial rand pool available for foreigners wishing to hay or sell South African assets. The commercial rand closed steady at 38.50 cents in featureless trading. South Africa's financial rand

a banned person who may not be quoted under South African law without permission from the Minister of Law and Order while the ANC is a banned organisation.

in a separate more Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister for Constitutional Development, announced that 5,000 black municipal policemen will be trained over the next six menths to act as auxiliaries to the charge of contravening the mext is months, the multiplial internal security acts against the Cape Times which on control of the black local Monday published a lengthy authorities and will be responsively with Mr Oliver Tambo, sible for the enforcement of leader of the African National council by-laws as well as the Congress in exile. Mr Tambo is maintenance of law and order,

Nyerere's successor faces challenge over economy BY MARY ANN FITZGERALD IN NAIROBI

TANZANIA'S ranking leader-

ship changed hands yesterday when President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, 60, was officially sworn in as successor to Mr Julius Nyerere, 63. As the sole presidential candidate, handpicked by Mr Nyerere, Mr Mwinyi received 92 per cent of the vote in national one-party elections on October 27. Mr Nyerere has led Tanzanian since independence in 1961.

Mr Nyerere is only the "black African head of state to hand over power by constitu-tional process. He relinquishes his 24-year tenure as the counhis 24-year tenure as the country's leader at a time when his socialist policies have been called into question even by traditionally stauach supporters such as the Scandinavian countries, Tanzania's largest bilateral donors. Speaking at the landmark occasion, Mr. Nyerere warned that Tanzania's economic warned that Tanzania's economic ills would not be solved over-

industrial sector and declining agicultural yields that make Tanzania the world's 14th est natiou.

The economy is beset by a 40 per cent inflation rate and a foreign debt of over \$2.5bn. Last year GDP growth was 2.5 per cent, well below the annual population increase of 3.3 per cent. Much of the blame for this performance has been laid at Mr Nyerere's feet.

New blood at the top has led to speculation that application of the Socialist doctrine will become more flexible. Privately, many Tanzanians are hoping that this will be the case. but that this will be the case, but of the economy on renew Mr Nyerere's imprint is likely negotiations with the IMF.



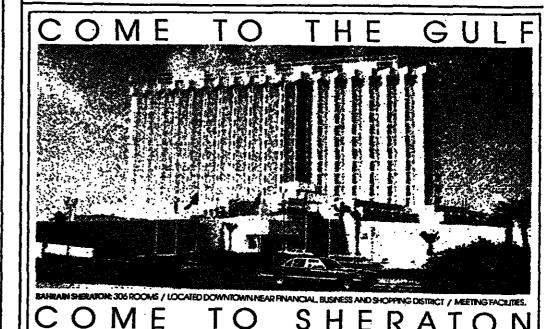
Mr Mwinyl: 92 per cent of vote to be evident for some time to

such as the World Bank. Speak-Mr Mwinyi has held several cabinet posts and most recently Mr Mwinyi faces a major challenge in his new role. He has Zanzibar in January 1984. inherited a legacy of a stagnant lis predecessor. Sheikh Aboud industrial sector and declining Jumbe, had been fomenting secessionist was Mr Mwinyi's subsequent success at welding the islands into the mainland system that

probably earned him his present post.

He was responsible for introducing a duty-free port in Zanzibar and relaxing foreign exchange restrictions that allowed badly needed consumer goods to appear in the shops. Variations of this system were later introduced on the main-

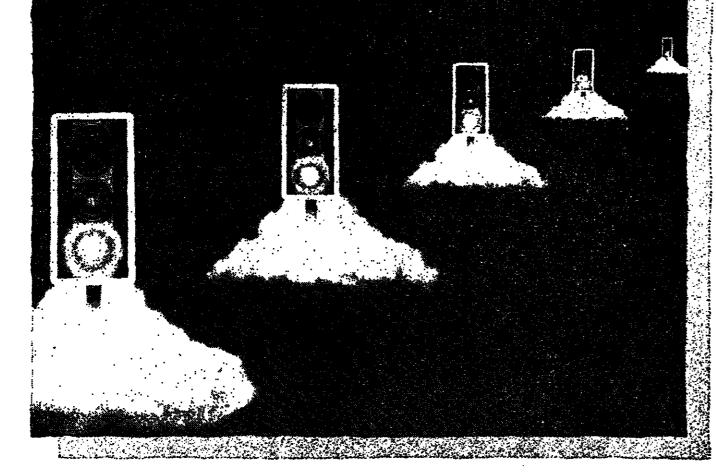
Donor countries are pinning their hopes for the resurrection



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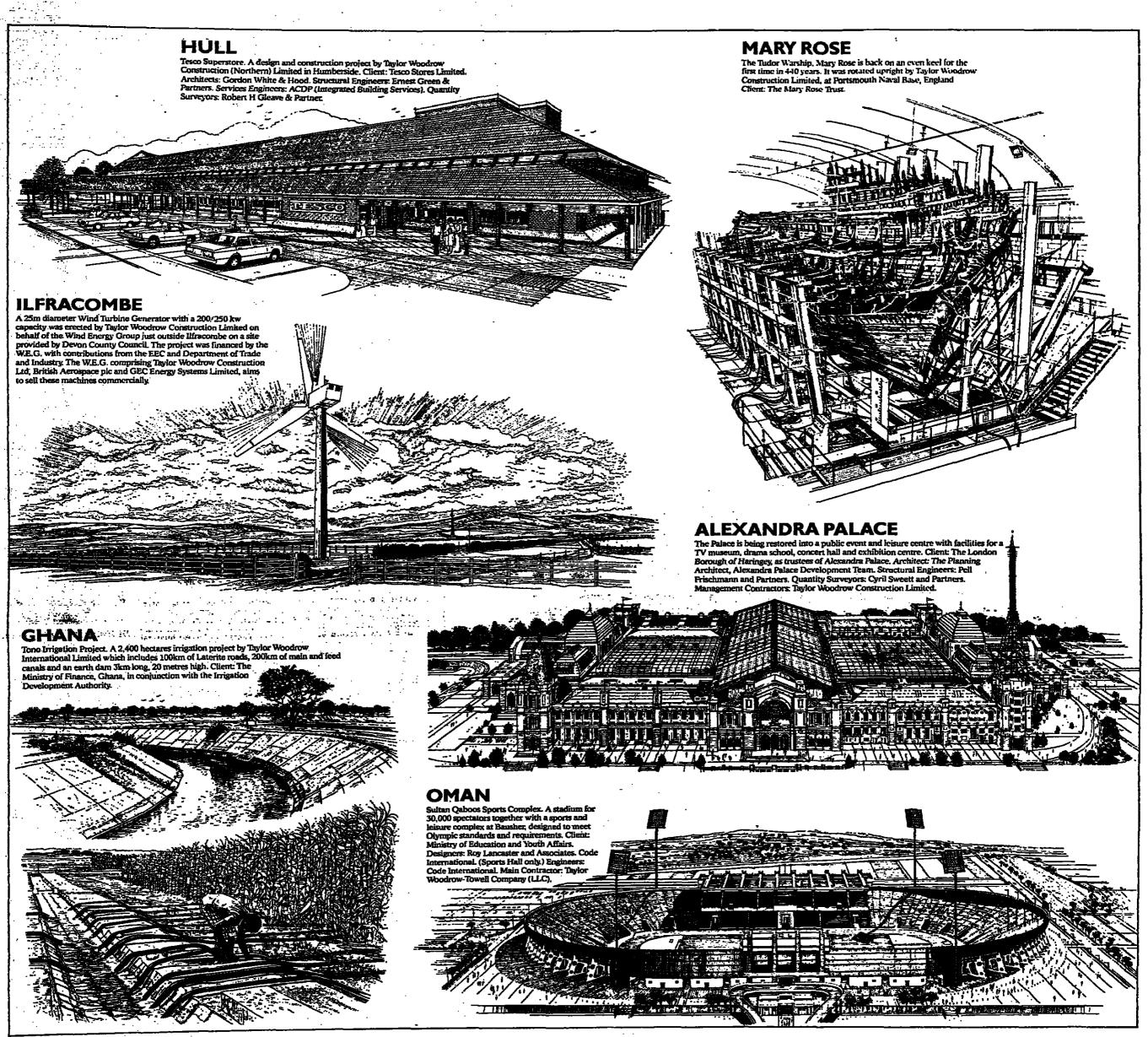
*Effective April 1986 subject to government approval.

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US fails to find conspiracy behind 'double defector'

BY REGINALD DALE, U.S. EDITOR IN WASHINGTON

THE Reagan Administration The Soviet authorities appeared was yesterday keeping its ready to allow Mr Yurchenko fingers crossed that the extra- to be interviewed by U.S. ordinary affair of Mr Vitaly authorities in a "non coercive" Yurchenko, the Soviet "double environment defector." would not undermine the US-Soviet summit that begins in-Geneva in just under:

two weeks.

The preliminary assessment subsequent drugging and forced interrogation in the U.S.

The experts were divided, however, over whether he was so. But there were inevitably a genuine defector who changed his mind, or a KGB "plant" all was that it was unlikely to do so. But there were inevitably nervous recollections of the celebrated U2 incident of May, 1960, in which American spy-plane pilot Gary Powers was shot down over the Soviet Union 15 days before the four-power Paris summit conference between Eisenhower, Kruschev, MacMillan and De Gaulle. Krus-

chev, at least in the American interpretattion, used the US incident to wreck the summit. Some intelligence analysts, including Mr William Colby, a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, yesterday pointed to a remark by Mr Yurchenko at his Washington Press conference on Monday evening as a "key symbol" that Moscow was not looking for another such incident.

Mr Yurchenko said he was not sure that President Reagan had known about his alleged abduction and dissociated his captors from Mr William Casey, the current CIA director. Political analysts, while

admitting that Moseow may have wanted to embarrass the Administration and the CIA. have wanted to embarrass the remarkably similar allegations Administration and the CIA, —most notably Mr Oleg Bitov, found it hard to believe that the Soviet Union could really he was in Italy in 1983, only to want to torpedo a summit to which it has itself attached such

Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, who has said that he whole world is waiting for a breakthrough on arms control in Geneva, could hardly want to risk the blame for desroying that opportunity for the sake of a mysterious spy affair At least at diplomatic level.

tempers on both sides appeared to be calming and the prospect up to the summit was receding.

Vitaly Yurchenko addressing a press conference at the Soviet Embassy in Washington

Nobody official in Washington or Congress believed Mr Yurcheuko's James Bond-like' story of abduction in Italy and subsequent drugging and forced

If he were planted, the con-clusion appeared to be inescapable that he was ordered to make his allegations in a blaze of publicity to unsettle the U.S. on the summit's eve.

Most, however, favoured the genuine defector theory. A senior intelligence source told the Washington Post yesterday that Mr Yurchenko had passed a

series of lie detector tests to establish his credibility
Other officials pointed out that he had disclosed valuable information on Soviet agents in name of an ex-CIA agent. Mr Michael Howard, who recently

fied the US.

If his change of heart was genuine, the universal assumption was that his elaborate allegations against the CIA were intended to ingratiate himself sufficiently with the Soviet authorities to allow his return Previous Soviet defectors in the same situation have made

return to Moscow last year. Mr George Carver, a forme the American authorities for giving Mr Yurchenko too much latitude, possibly allowing him to make trips away from his "safe house" near Washington
"The Soviets used his graphi

cally to remind him what was likely to happen to his family and he used it to take a powder, leaving a lot of egg on a lot of faces in the intelligence comof an undignified tug-of-war muzity," he said. With that last over Mr Yurchenko in the run-thought, nobody yesterday dis-

Brazil's industrial region hit by strike

BY ANDREW WHITLEY IN RIO DE JANEIRO

HUNDREDS of thousands of industrial workers went on the strike yesterday in Sao Paulo state, Brazil's most important damage the already uncertain state, Brazil's most important industrial region, at the start of an indefinite stoppage called jointly by the two rival, national trades union federations, Cut and Conclat. An estimated 600,000 workers were

expected to come out.

expected to come out.

The strike—the third major stoppage in only seven months for many of those involved—is likely to paralyse a significant chunk of Brazil's engineering, plastics, chemical and woodworking industry.

Called in support of renewed demands for a cut in the working week from 48 to 44 hours. 20 per cent real wage increases and, above all, quarterly wage rises, the strike is causing considerable political embarrassment to the government of President Jose Sarney.

Key municipal elections are

Key municipal elections are due in Sao Paulo and other

damage the already uncertain prospects of Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso, candidate of the ruling Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB) in Sao Paulo.

Apart from being the largest

Apart from being the largest city in South America, with a population of over 15m. Sao Paulo is the political stronghold of the PMDB. Its loss to the right wing candidate former President Janio Quadros would be a major blow to President Sarney's shaky poli-

resident sarney's snary political base.

The opening day of the strike coincided with a scheduled nationwide broadcast last night by Sr Sarney, in which the president was expected to deliver a highly ordinistic progress report or optimistic progress report on the economy since the civilian Government took office in

Venezuela cuts heavy crude prices to match Mexico

BY RICHARD JOHNS IN CARACAS

VENEZUELA is lowering prices for its heavy and ultra heavy crudes to match the 40 cent per barrel cut made by Mexico last week
At the same time the state oil corporation Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA) is raising prices for two refined products in the middle distillate range in response to further market conditions.

degrees API gravity and below, which are not covered by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' price structure.

PDVSA is producing about 580,000 barrels, a day of heavy crude. Products affected by the latest price change will involve about 200,000 b/d of products.

Oil officials here were puzzled by Mexico's decision

sene by 2 cents per gallon.

The lower crude oil prices mers. However, they decided late on Monday night venezuela had no choic will apply to all varieties of 22

It is understood that the rate arguing that it would not for No 2 gasoil is going up by increase offtake or have much 3 cents per gallon and jet kerosene by 2 cents per gallon Venezuela had no choice to follow suit.

O'Neill lobs budget reform grenade into Reagan's court

BY STEWART FLEMING, US ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT IN WASHINGTON

"THEY PASSED us a hand grenade. We pulled the pin and handed it back. The danger is at some time it will blow us all up." That is the judgment of one Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives in the wake of the spectacular political cours which Mr. Tin political coup which Mr Tip O'Neill, the House Speaker, pulled off last Friday.

The hand grenade is the proposed reform of the congres-sional budget process drafted initially by Republican senators Mr Phil Gramm and Mr Warren Rudman and Democrat Mr Ernest Hollings.

The Bill passed the Senate last month with both the sup-port of the Reagan Administraport of the Reagan Administration (the reservations of Mr
Caspar Weinberger, the Defence
Secretary, and Mr George
Shultz, the Secretary of State,
notwithstanding) and a comfortable bipartisan majority.
Twenty-seven senate Democrats, including the prospective presidential candidate
Mr Edward Kennedy unexpectedly flew the colours
of fiscal conservatism and
backed the Bill, to the profound consternation of many
Democrats in the bouse.

Democrats in the house.



real fears on both sides of the aisle that the budget deficit issue, which clearly failed to excite the passions of voters in the 1984 presidential election, may indeed explode in Con-gress's face in the mid-term elections in 1986.

The Gramm-Rudman-Hollings The Gramm-Rudman-Hollings
Bill addressed that danger
by promising to tackle the deficit
problem ... but not yet. It
mandated a reduction in the
budget deficit from the 1985
level of \$211.9bn to zero in 1991
in annual chunks of \$36bn. But
the first cuts were not to be
required until 1987.

The Stral year 1986 (which

The fiscal year 1986 (which began on October 1) budget Democrats in the house.

The irony of Mr Kennedy's deficit target was conveniently stance was rudely underlined by the position taken by Mr was assumed would not require any politically unpopular steps missed it as a "Republican incumbent's protection Bill."

The fact that the Bill gathered such began on October 1) budget

Last Friday, however, Mr O'Neill pulled off what even some White House officials now describe as a "brilliant" coup. So many that right-wing southern Democrats felt they if the Bill two of the House Democratic began on October 1) budget

O'Neill pulled off what even showed the House black caucus to vote for the Bill — but not southern Democrats felt they if the Bill two of the House Democratic began on October 1) budget

Underlined by set at \$180bn, a level which it doy the describe as a "brilliant" coup. So many that right-wing southern Democrats felt they if the Bill two of the House Democratic began of the Bill which had to vote against it.

So the grenade has been southern Democrats for the poor which face a deadling the day the scale of the day the southern Democrats felt they if the Bill two of the House Democratic began on October 1) budget

The irony of Mr Kennedy's set at \$180bn, a level which it do to tree for the Bill — but not vote for the Bill — but not vote for the Bill and to vote against it.

So the grenade has been So the grenade has been two (politically) salient two (politically) salient two (politically) salient two features:

In future years, the bill demanded that Congress cut the It would come into effect and only the two to the to vote for the Bill which had the two that the day the to vote for the Bill and the to vote of the Bill which had two of the House officials now to vote of the Bill which had the two of the House officials now to vote of the Bill which had the two of the House officials now to vote of the Bill which had the two that the Bill which had the two of the Bill which had the two that the Bill which had the two of the Bill which had the two the two the

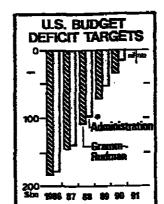
targets; if Congress failed then The President would be required to do the job for it. To sidestep the danger that voters might baulk at even the threat of budget cuts, some politically sensitive spending programmes were deliberately excluded from the risk of the presiden-

For three weeks beginning on October 16, a Senate House conference committee then juggled with what many saw as a piece of political dynamite amid fears within the Democratic Party that their Republican foes had them cornered.

The Democrats could hardly reject the Bill outright because that would expose them to charges that they really did not want to do anything about the deficit; charges which might lead to Republican victories in close congressional races next year.

However, most observers doubted that the splintered Democratic coalition would be able to muster enough unity to pass its own politically more palatable alternative.

Last Friday, however, Mr O'Neill pulled off what even some White House officials now describe as a "brilliant" coup. He succeeded in uniting all but two of the House Democratic majority behind a Democratic version of the Bill which had two (politically) estiont



immediately assuming congressional and presidential approval presidential and approval:

• The maximum allowable deficit for fiscal 1986 would be

\$161bn pulled together by roping off from mandatory cuts by the President some new areas — in

tion is privately projecting a What will happen? No one is budget deficit for 1986 of sure. Many agree with Ms Alice \$190bn. If the two key pro-Rivlin, the former director of visions of the House version of the congressional budget office. the budget reform Bill were to who says that what is going on become law. Mr Reagan would now on Capitol Hill has have to start right away making cuts in all sort of budget programmes which Republican tolers might not like. The voters might not like. The threat of the loss of Republican

prospect that it might have to reverse itself and withdraw support for reforming the budget process. Mr Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed services committee, has pre-dicted that as things stand 45 per cent of any automatic budget cuts required of the President might have to come out of defence spending; another chunk might have to come out of the farm budget.

This is clearly not the end of the story. The Senate plans to pass a revised version of the original Gramm-Rudman bill on Wednesday, and then it will be

Perhaps Congress will see it like that and find some way of control of the Senate would approving a new budget pro-loom even more ominously.

The White House must also

The workers the ambarrance of the conference o now confront the embarrassing full employment, simply become an expression of good inten-

> "I think something will be approved, but weakened if not emasculated," says Mr William Schneider, a political analyst with the American Enterprise Institute.

> Up to this point, however, one significant political event has occurred. The Democratic leadership has been able to unite the House in a way which Mr Schneider says has not been seen since the crushing defeat the party suffered in 1980.

Special circumstances, resent-ment against Mr Gramm, re-elected as a Republican in 1984, From mandatory cuts by the President some new areas — in particular certain welfare programmes for the poor which allowed the House black caucus to vote for the Bill — but not so many that right-wing southern Democrats felt they had to vote against it.

So the grenade has been lobbed back into the Senate, and now it is the White House welf and the national debt is the polyments on the national debt ceiling to the polyment of the Bill to increase the polyment of the polyment of the polyment of the polyment of the Bill to increase the polyment of the pol debt increase Bill is currently trade and budget areas—a tied to the budget process worrying thought for their reform Bill.

Republican rivals.

64,267 reasons to consider export insurance.



In 1984, Britain's partners in the European Community suffered 64,267 bankruptcies, an increase of 36% since 1982

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Gatt sees more signs of trend to bilateral trade

AMPLE FURTHER evidence of the Gatt council the urgent need the trend towards bilateral to get a new round of multi-trade arrangements, managed lateral trade negotiations going. India, on the other hand, on exports has emerged over thought the deterioration in the past six months, the Secretical Account of the trade created a poor tariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade reported

yesterday.

Bangladesh had become the first least-developed country to be subjected by the European Economic Community to trade restraints, the Secretariat said.

Japan, which had announced new market-opening measures during the period, had also called on several other Asian countries, including China and South Korea, to agree to voluntary restrictions on textile and clothing exports. repart

The Secretariat's prompted several in prompted several industrial on US producers, the Secre-countries, including the U.S., tariat said. These pressures Canada and Australia, to under-line at yesterday's meeting of tection of US markets.

Austrians share

in E. German

By Patrick Blum in Vienna

The contract was signed just over a week ago in Berlin, Voest-Alpine, Austria's state-

owned steel, engineering, elec-

tronics and trading group, said

Voest-Alpine's share of the work will represent about 60

per cent of the contract value

with the remaining 40 per cent going to Linde AG, of West

The work includes erecting

new equipment for the produc-

tion of hydroparaphine and

diesel fuel, expanding the

capacity of the plant including

storage and loading. Work is

expected to be completed by

Conference Programme Wednesday II December 1985

Keynote Presentations

Mr. L. K. MacGregor Chairman of the Coaltech '85 Advisory Board'. Rt Hon P. Walker MBE MP Secretary of State for Energy Mr. Robert H. Quenon

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President
Peabody Holding Co. Inc.,
United States of America
Mr A. J. Fairclough
Acting Director DG11
Commission of the
European Communities
Mr F. H. Esser

Mr D. Jones
Director of the Long Term
Office

United States of America

The Lord Marshall of

Goring Kt, CBE, FRS Chairman, Central Electricity

Generating Board, United Kingdom

Thursday 12 December

Environmental

● Combustion ● Poster Presentations

World Coal Markets

Session
Supply characteristics - The

producer's case
Logistics - Obtaining maximum benefit from link

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World Coal Markets

Friday 13 December Technology Session

Technology Sessions

Preparation & Handling
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Fluidized Bed Combust

International Energy Agency IEA. Mr James M. Griffin
Vice President & Technical

Managing Director Ruhrkohle International GmbH Fed. Rep. of Germany

The Chase Manhattan Bank N.A.

August 1988,

contract

in East Germany.

climate for trade talks.

By reducing access to their markets, the developed countries were making it increas-ingly difficult for India and

pursue their own efforts to liberalise their trade, the Indian representative said. The 14 per cent decline in trade-weighted terms in the dollar between February and August, accelerated by the decisions of the Group of Five Western finance ministers in September, held out hope of an eventual easing in the pressures

other developing countries to

It was generally agreed, however, that the lower dollar would have little short-term impact on the US trade balance The stress of "fair" rather than "free trade" appeared to be an increasingly important factor in decisions by Japanese companies to set up manufac-turing plants in western Europe and North America, the Secre-

tries were re-assessing the merits of countertrade. Its evidence, however, seems limited to an agreement in principle by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries phase out current barter deals by the end of 1985.

tariat said.

The decision, the Secretaria comments, reflects the severe strains placed on the world oil-pricing structure by counter-trade involving crude oil.

Hyundai signs \$208.5m Iraq power plant order

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AN AUSTRIAN and West DM 250m (£64m) contract to rebuild and modernise the voltage transformer stations in Schwedt petrochemical combine that country.

Coming less than a week after the news that Hyundai had won a \$754m (£538m) contract to build a ship repairyard in Iraq, the new project raises Hyun-dai's new contract total for the year to nearly \$2bn.

Under the latest contract, Hyundai will build on a turn-key basis four 400-kilovolt transformer stations in the suburbs of Baghdad by the end of 1987.

A company spokesman said that much of the electrical equipment for the stations would come from Hyundai's sister-company, Hyundai Elec-trical Engineering Co.

HYUNDAI Engineering and contracts worth \$2.45bn, which Construction, South Korea's amounted to 40 per cent of leading contractor, has signed South Korea's total, well up a \$208.5m (£148m) contract from the company's historic with Iraq to build four high-voltage transformer stations in

A company official said that Hyundai would try to maintain an annual volume of business of about \$2bn, as it has in recent years, and attributed the company's success to a gradual move away from simple civil engineering into the company of the company of the company of the civil engineering in the c civil engineering jobs to more sophisticated projects.

Libbey-Owens-Ford company of the US and Nippon Sheet Glass of Japan have received final authorisation from the South Korean Government to enter into a safety-glass joint venture with Hankuk Glass Company.

called Hankuk Safety Glass, is the latest in a series of new foreign joint ventures that will Hyundai has taken nearly foreign joint ventures that will half of all South Korea's new provide world-class parts and overseas contracts this year.

Last year Hyundai signed new rapidly growing car industry.

S. Africa to set up barter deal secretariat

and advise the private sector in and anvise the private sector in setting up barter deals and coun-ter-trade operations. President P. W. Botha announced at an award-giving cermony for top exporters in Johannesburg.

Creation of the new secre-tariat, which will be part of South Africa's Department of Trade and Industry comes against the background of growing sanctions moves against South Africa and at a time when re-negotiation of South Africa's \$24bn (£17bn) foreign debt requires the main-tenance of a strong currentaccount payments surplus for debt servicing and capital re-

payment.
"The application of counter trading practices has developed into an accepted international method of trading which can hardly be ignored and it is in the interests of the republic that this method of trading be utili-

sed," the President said.
The President also announced that South Africa was reviewing its export incentives system as part of its long term strategy of increasing its non-gold mannfactured exports.
The combination of domestic

recession and the depreciated rand led to a 17 per cent rise in export volumes and a 27 per cent drop in imports over the first half of this year. Latest trade statistics for the

first eight months show this trend is continuing, with exports at Rand 2.5bn and imports at R 14.8bn to give a trade surplus of R 7.7bn.

The Government is concerned at the continuing high depen dence on the mining industry which provided 67 per cent of export income last year, and is auxious both to expand exports of manufactured and seek new markets.

Burma rail deal for Alsthom

By Paul Betts in Paris

ALSTHOM, the French heavy-engineering company controlled by the nationalised Compagnie Générale d'Eléctricité, has won a FFr 440m (£36m) order to supply 15 railway engines to

The contract also includes the supply by the French company of equipment and techni-cal assistance to the Burma railways to modernise 26 other rail-

An EEC trade-in-services case is coming up for close scrutiny to-day Brussels puts four member states in dock

A HEARING at the European Gourt of Justice in Luxembourg oday and tomorrow will receive specially close scrutiny from hose who worry whether there vill ever be a real common market in Europe.

The European Commission is unting four member states in the European Commission is unting four member states in the Germany, france, Demmark and Ireland—or allegedly floating two writcles in the Treaty of Rome hat guaranteed freedom of rade in services across member-SOUTH AFRICA is to set up a

> Although the cases concern parrow and technical issues of narket access to certain kinds nsurance, the psychological all-out from the judgment will If the Commission is success-ul—and the preliminary opin-

rade in Services across member

on in about two months' time will provide the clues—then political efforts to "complete" the internal market by 1992 could be helped forward.

There are of course, commercial as well as political interests at stake. In this case, at its the City of London, with its large and sophisticated insur-ance market that hopes to win

Of the four defendants. therefore, West Germany is seen, in London at least, as the most important. It is not just the size of the prize that ex-entes the insurance broking fraternity, but a feeling that West Germany, which boasts the most open market in Europe

a great deal of West German

for goods, is the least open when it comes to services. At first sight, it looks as if petition the European Court is faced West with an open-and-shut case.

BY JONATHAN CARR IN FRANKFURT AND CHRISTIAN TYLER IN LONDON German insurance visory law. This states that whoever procures a contract of insurance from, or underwrites on the authority of,

an insurer not licensed to Germany, commits a sum-mary effects. Mr Schleicher holds that Mr Schleicher holds that this law is incompatible with the Rome Treaty provisions on freedom of services in the Community. The European Commission gave him a sympathetic ear and has curried the issue to the European

love to see opened in full.

do business there. Moreover, insurance brokers in West Germany can cover risks for customers only with insurers established in the Federal Republic.

These two provisions, in effect, seal off the West German market for insurers not estabof West Germany's critics, is certainly not what the Community's founding fathers in-

IT WAS Mr Fram Schleicher,

IT WAS Mr Fram Schleicher, an insurance broker from Bavaria, who put the cat among the pigeons. Jonathan Carr writes. Until 1981, he placed business for clients domiciled in West Germany with British insurance companies via British brokers.

The reason? The premium

panies via British brokers.
The reason? The premium rates he could obtain that way were cheaper than those charged by insurance companies in West Germany.

Mr Schleicher was fined DM 18.000 (£4,600) for his pains by German authorities

who argued he had broken

West Germany insists that, in most cases, foreign insurers be established in Germany and be authorised by German super-

visory authorities in order to

This is galling above all for Britain, which has trading strength in services such as insurance and banking—but is less strong in manufacturing in the face of West German com-

West Germany is not the only costs record of the individual country resistant to trade in insurance company.

services, but it is also by far the biggest European insurance market-one the British would

For all that, the issue is not as straightforward as it seems.
At the core of the problem are
differing systems of insurance
supervision, formed, above all. historical and psychological

The Germans are protected by (or put up with) an elaborate affembracing system of state supervision which tends to make Anglo-Saxon minds boggle.

The Federal Insurance Supervisory Office in Berlin keeps detailed watch on companies to ensure rules are respected on policy conditions, tariffs, spread

of investments and so or For example, motor liability insurance tariffs need govern ment approval, and are adjusted in accord with the claims and

If the total return from motor insurance exceeds a certain percentage of premiums, refunds must be made to policybolism, according to a formula which for many members of the public

seems pretty obscure.
The cardinal concern behind The cardinal concern beautiful is that consumers be protected—and bence that an company be allowed to fail.

Other Continental caustries have a similar attitude to "ether supervision," but it is especially marked in West Germany with its bitter history in which hyperinfiction, financial colleges and political extremism were interpolitical extremism were inter-

twined.

"Safety first—by a very long way," has long been the inpite, and there are fears that full freedom of services would undermine that principle.

"If foreigners want to do insurance business been, all they have to do is set up shop and respect our rules," the argument runs.

The counter-argument, above

The counter-argument, above West German insurance consumer is being overprotected, that is, that West German consumer is that we would be in the construction of the panies can afford to charge high tariffs and make relatively easy profits, sale in the knowledge that competitors cannot second down on them from a foreign

British and other non-West German insurance companies have established themselves in West Germany; but why, it is asked must establishment be a condition of doing business

After all, West Germans can sell manufactured goods in Britain without necessarily having a factory there!

MBB bids for Star Wars order

MBB of West Germany is US Defence Department's with the telescope on board. Wars technology contract in partnership with Boeing the-US aerospace and defence contractor.

The two companies are making a joint submission to the Pentagon to organise an experiment on board a space shuttle in late 1987. The experiment would involve a test of an infra-red telescope capable of tracking space objects such as missiles.

The contract would be worth
"a few tens of millions of
dollars," Mr Bud Ekas, vicepresident and general manager
of Boeing's defence systems
division, said in London

Under the submission to the

bidding for an important Star Strategic Defence Initiative Organisation, the body which runs the \$33bn (£23.5bn) Star Wars programme, Boeing would have overall charge of the experiment.

MBB, which is West Germany's biggest aerospace company, would provide a space platform, called SPAS, which the company has developed for civilian space applications and which would carry the telescope in orbit around the earth.

SPAS would be stored inside the cargo bay of a space shuttle until the vehicle reached an the cargo bay of a space shuttle until the vehicle reached an orbit above the atmosphere is an existing device that was about 250 miles above the earth. Built in the early 1970s by At this point, astronauts would Hughes Aircraft, anoth eject the platform from the bay US defence contractor.

The instruments would contique to drift in orbit around the earth on board the platform, taking measurements of infra-

red radiation from naturally-occurring space objects such as stars and planets. The experiment could indicate the usefulness of the sensor as a device for tracking missiles in flight. Such sensing devices would be an important part of an operational Star Wars system designed to defend the West

from nuclear warheads fired by the Soviet Union. Hughes Aircraft, another large

British exports to Portugal grow by 24%

By Diana Smith in Lisbon BRITISH EXPORTS to Portugal grew by 24 per cent in the first eight months of 1985, accord-ing to Mr Paul Channen, Britain's Trade Minister, Mr Channon is visiting Portugal with a group of senior

British businessmen as part of a drive to increase trade and investment there. The impetus began during the Queen's visit in March

This year's improvement in British exports is not enough to overturn the sizeable trade surplus Portugal has enjoyed for the past two years. But Mr Channon hoped that

by the end of the year, Britain will have sold £500m-worth of

Canute James examines the potential benefits of Canada's imports initiative

Mulroney lifts trade hopes in the Caribbean

has promised some relief to the hard-pressed economies of the English-speaking Caribbean, most of which have been earning less from their traditional exports and desperately need

new markets. new markets.

Mr Mulroney has accepted a Caribbean suggestion that Canada establish a one-way free trade facility so Caribbean goods can enter the Canadian market duty free increasing their competitiveness.

"We anticipate that the arrangements will cover 99 per cent of the goods which the

cent of the goods which the Caribbean currently exports to

Canada," he said.

The Canadian trade incentive to be named Caribean, was suggested by the Caribban leaders as being similar to the Reagan Administration's Caribbean Basin Initiative, but with-out the limitations of the U.S.

The CBI is a 12-year trade The Chi is a Leyear trade scheme, initiated in January, 1984, which allows 21 countries designated by Washington to ship a range of goods duty free

to the United States. Caribbean leaders, however, must be hoping that when Mr Mulroney presents the details of Caribcan in a few months. it will differ from the US scheme It was put to him in



Mr Brian Mulroney:

region wanted a programme better than the CBL The main items they want to

ship to Canada duty free are garments, cigars, footwear and

The CBI has been coming under increasing criticism from Caribbean political and business leaders, who feel that the scheme is falling short of its promise. It is the economic arm of the Reagan Administration's Central American policy and was implemented in the belief that the regions economies, strengthened by products grew tast year by \$407m to \$7.494bn. Caribbean economiss say this growth would have happened anyhow hecause of an improvement in the US economy.

Further questions about the real value of the Caribbean Basin Initiative to the region are likely to be raised with the publication of US Commerce Department figures showing a



The region's leaders clearly hope that Canadian industry will be tolerant to these imports, which are the basis of its fledgling, but promising, light industrial sector. Fears voiced by US business that it could be affected by a flood of cheap Caribbean imports of gar-ments and footwear which has led to their omission from the list of goods extitled to pre-

ferential treatment. US imports of Caribbean products of the CBI list last year were valued at \$577.7m (£401m), 7.7 per cent of all imports from designated countries. Total US imports of Caribbean products grew last year by \$407m to \$7.494bn. Caribbean economists say this growth would have happened anyhow hecause of an improvement in the US assessment.



fall in the value of Caribbean exports to the US in the first half of this year.

this year, exports were \$3.327bn, about one-third down on the same period of last year.

Several Caribbean prime ministers recently voiced their concern in a letter to President Ronald Reagan, saying their confidence in the CBI was being eroded and that they were worried at a tendency towards in-creasing protectionism by US legislators. ledged that the CBI excludes products which are important in our industrial programme. The most noted omissions from the programme viewed in terms of their foreign exchange earnings and employment potential are textiles and garments, footwear and leather products," they wrote.

"In all our countries, this industry offers the best oppor-tunity for quick development measures in terms of job creation with relatively low investment requirements."

The US is aware of the CBI's failing. Mr Ken Blakely, deputy director of the State Department's policy planning council, said: "The initial impact has been somewhat limited, but over the long run, opportunities to enter the United States, duty free, will provide tremendous stimulants for growth in the

region." It is unlikely, however, that the Canadian scheme, whatever its final shape, will do for the Caribbean what the CBI has not. Mr Mulroney, pointing out that already more than 90 per cent of items exported from this region to Canada arters that region to Canada enter duty free, said: "Obviously these things do impact on the Canadian treasury, but the free flow of trade is what we are all looking for."

Daaman Dairect.

Saudia Tristars now fly direct to Dhahran from Heathrow Every Sunday and Thursday at 10.30 am.



BR announces £182m order for fast trains

BY ANDREW FISHER

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A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR

gest ever single batch of orders for passenger trains yesterday, but out in about half of the £182m of work

BR said it would be spending BR said it would be spending passenger trains yesterday, but ou-iy about half of the £182m of work to build 652 new vehicles for local services has gone to its own engineering subsidiary.

The orders, part of an upgrading of the provincial network which will cost more than £400m, are the largest placed by BR since the £306m

in March BR also signalled its intention of ordering about 1,500 ton the remaining 70. Delivery of the units, to operate costing about £1.5bm, saying it would not necessarily buy British.

BR's subsidiary, British Rail Engineering Ltd (BREL), said it had won about £18m of the latest orders, with the rest being shared between Metro-Cammell, part of the Laird Group, and Levland Vehitages. the Laird Group, and Leyland Vehi-cles, a BL subsidiary.

But BREL, which has been shedding jobs and seeking more export business in recent years, said it was disappointed not to have won a larger slice of the business. This was put out to competitive tender in line with the BR policy adopted 18

months ago.

The new vehicles are for non-Inter City diesel services on local, regional and suburban routes, and for the electric cross-London link which BR plans to start again in 1988. BREL will build the electric

vehicles.
Mr John Edmonds, the provincial sector director, said that with the new investment "BR is demonstrat-

BRITISH RAIL announced its big-services on its provincial lines.

about £2m a week on new trains over the next three years. Most of the orders are for 468 Sprinter diesel vehicles to run on local and cross-country services outside the south-east, replacing slower, less comfortable and less reliable trains

east coast electrification programme from London to Edinburgh in Scotland was authorised 15 its York plant, with Birminghambased Metro-Cammell building 228, and Leyland Vehicles of Working-

The greater efficiency of the new diesel vehicles, however, means that three existing units can be replaced by two Sprinters, thus leav ing a fleet requirement of about 1,700.

ing to BREL will provide job security at York for about 2,700 people until March, 1988. Its Sprinter work will be worth £40m and the electric trains for the cross-London route

will be worth £56m. Last May, BREL said it was cut ting 4,800 jobs over the next two years and closing the Swindon repair works in Wiltshire by next

Repair and maintenance work is ing its commitment to maintaining lessening as more robust and effi-and substantially upgrading the cient trains are introduced.

Sinclair C5 project ends in liquidation

SIR CLIVE SINCLAIR'S C5 electric vehicle project finally came to an end yesterday with the appoint-

Mr Christopher Morris, a partner of Touche, Ross, was appointed to liquidate TPD, formerly Sinclair Vehicles, at a creditors' meeting.

TPD came into being on Septer ber 19, along with a sales subsid-iary, Sinclair Vehicles Sales. About 100 creditors were told that Sir Clive himself would be a secured creditor, having lent the company

Creditors were told that altogether £8.6m had been lost in the ven-ture and that its total deficiency stood at £8.4m. About 4,800 of the

Receivers from Begbie, Picker-ing, who were called in during mid-October, had estimated that unsecured suppliers were owed about £750,000 while Sir Clive was owed

Mr David Sapte and Mr Anthony locke, the receivers, had nursed hopes that the company could be sold as a going concern. They in-tended to keep the sales company in operation but acknowledged that the chances of resuming production - which ended in August - were

Government launches new inflation-proof savings bond

a new form of inflation-proofed investment bond. The indexed-income bond offers exist.

an income which rises each year in bond remains the same and is re-turned at the end of its 10-year life.

NATIONAL SAVINGS, the UK
Government-controlled savings linked certificate, still known as the bank, has broken fresh ground with a new form of inflation-proofed so available to those under 65 years old. About £4.5bn of these now

The granny bond, however, offers line with changes in the Retail an index-linked capital value, rath-Price Index. The capital value of the er than income. It is also free of tax. bond has puzzled some observers, The rate of interest for the first since it is not immediately clear year will be 8 per cent, with income what type of investor will find it

paid monthly. No tax is deducted at attractive. source, but the interest is liable to London stockbrokers Phillips &

would be an estimated 3.5 per cent, compared with 6.35 per cent from a

kow coupon gilt.

Mr Tim Melville-Ross, chief executive of the Nationwide Building Society, which has pioneered index linked mortgage lending, said the bond appeared to be neither one thing nor the other.

The indexed-income bond is not expected to contribute heavily to income tax. The new bond will go Drew estimated that the true annu- National Savings' net sales, since on sale on November 11, with a all net return for a basic rate taxpay demand for index-linked savings minimum investment of £5,000. er would be about 6.33 per cent over products bas declined in the last demand for index-linked savings National Savings is already in-volved in the market for inflation-tics 10-year life, if inflation averaged three years with falling rates of inflation.

TUC tackles pit union problem

TRADES UNION CONGRESS maintaining that it cannot recognize a breakaway from an affiliated executive of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in a first formal attempt to resolve difficulties knowledge the UDM's existence as mal attempt to resolve difficulties knowledge the UDM's existence as posed to both bodies by the breakaway Union of Democratic Mine-claims membership in excess of workers (UDM). The new union received a further boost yesterday when Daw Mill, a large pit in the Midlands of England, voted by 3 to

Prospects for the TUC meeting managing to find a solution to the

per cent.
Mr Dick Emery, former NUM

branch secretary, said the result was "absolutely marvellous." He said it was time Mr Scargill was brought back down to ground level. Mr Ian MacGregor, NCB chairman welcomed the decision, and hoped it would lead to "constructive discus-Mill, which in the main worked throughout the miners' strike, toasted in champagne the future of NUM leaders will also today try

to come to a decision about the the UDM when the result of the 24-NCB's latest pay proposals in an exhour-long secret pithead ballot was problem posed by the formation of announced Of 1,139 votes cast, 861 ecutive meeting due to take place the UDM look slim. The TUC is were in favour of joining the UDM, after the union has seen the TUC.

Rail tunnel worries force EuroRoute to amend Channel plan

BY ANDREW TAYLOR

EUROROUTE, one of the principal

the tunnel to the British and French governments. The original version, and still EuroRoute's main option, provides for the rail tunnel to be completed 18 months after a road link across the Channel, also rrench-owned state railway, however, have argued that more than a third of cross-Channel rail traffic could divert to the road line.

tunnel, which is to be financed sep-

arately from the road link.

In the face of this pressure EuroRoute has produced a second version of the plan providing for a
broad rail tunnel which could be
constructed simultaneously with
the road scheme. This involves an
adventurous combination of bridges
leading out to artificial islands and
leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands and leading out to artificial islands

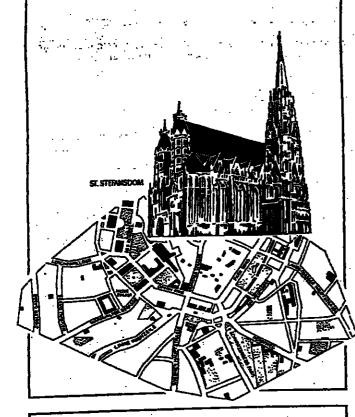
EuroRoute, which is beaded in contenders bidding to build a fixed the UK by Sir Nigel Broackes, link across the Channel between chairman of Trafalgar House, said England and France appears to be last night that the submerged rail facing problems over its plans to tunnel remained its main option, lacing problems over his fall to but it was having discussions with lay a submerged rail tunnel across but it was having discussions with BR and SNCF about the possibili-The Anglo-French consortium ties of bringing forward the cor has now submitted two versions of tion date of the tunnel.

The timing and method of conto EuroRoute's costing. By delaying the construction of the rail tunnel until after the road scheme is completed it says it would be able to de-fray the cost of the rail scheme by

Altogether, 10 separate applica-tions were submitted last week for could divert to the road link II the completion of the rail tunnel was delayed. Much of this business a licence to build a privately financed fixed link across the Chanwould be lost permanently, they much the lost permanently, they would be lost permanently, they ments said that of the 10 s understood to be concerned about only four had complied with the EuroRoute's commitment to the rail guidelines published by the two governments last April. The four applicants accepted by the two gov-ernments were EuroRoute; Channel

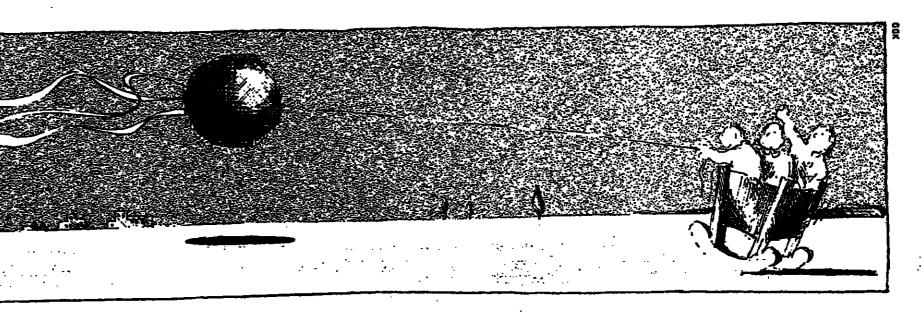


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Banks give strong response to BP's financial reshaping

BRITISH PETROLEUM (BP) has received a strong response from banks to plans for a sweeping reor-ganisation of its short-term finances. The company said yester-day that it has arranged \$6.5bn of credit lines and plans commercial paper programmes totalling S2bn. BP sought bids from 90 banks for

and S5bn of uncommitted credit to replace \$3.6bn of existing lines. It was attempting to cut costs not only by seeking very fine lending terms, but also by arranging the deal through its own in-house bank, British Petroleum Finance Interna-

tional (BPFI).

The company has accepted bids from 56 out of 71 banks which offered a total of S11.8bn, made up of \$4.2bn of committed and \$7.6bn of uncommitted money As a result of the state of the s uncommitted money. As a result of the acceptances, Japanese banks now make up a larger proportion of those with which BP has relationand appointed First Boston and Salships, and US banks a smaller

Mr John Browne, chief executive understood to have a policy of not of securing more effective use of BPFI, said: "We were over-accepting joint dealerships."

whelmed with offers, and are de-lighted about the response of the banks. We have reaffirmed banking

cost of the deal Banks, however, are thought to have had to swallow a steep reduction in their earnings from loans to BP in order to continue doing business with the company. It was believed that BP may have at least halved the average annual fee it will pay to the banks to about four basis points [hundredths of a percentage point], and that its terms will rank among the finest

for US commercial paper issues of up to the same amount. The compaomon Brothers as joint dealers, replacing Goldman Sachs, which is

Ministers to review inner city spending

THE GOVERNMENT has begun a ministerial review of the value for money of public spending on special assistance to the inner cities. Programmes accounting for £503m in 1984-85 are to be examined.

An inter-departmental group headed by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary and Mr Kenneth Baker, the Environment Secretary, began meeting two weeks ago.
They will look at the costeffectiveness of job creation under the Urban Programme, which chan-nelled £338m this year into inner cities through local authorities.

They will also examine the value

for money of projects undertaken by the urban development corporations, such as the Mersey Development Corporation in Liverpool Derelict land grants, worth £81m in 1984-85, will also be reviewed. The Government stressed last night that it sees the whole exercise not as the prelude to cuts, but as a way

Malaysian car heads Growth in for British launch

BY CHRIS SHERWELL AND WONG SULONG IN KUALA LUMPUR

TWO EXAMPLES of Malaysia's "national car," the Proton Saga, are due to arrive in the UK within the next two weeks to undergo testing of their ability to meet British legislative standards.

This should lead to the car's launch - under another name -at the UK motor show in The privately owned importer, Proton Cars UK, hopes to sell "several thousand" a year

"several thousand" a year through a network of 90 dealers. The UK company is a subsidiary of Mainland Investments, with headquarters at Warrington. Cheshire. It has a number of re-tail car franchises in the northwest of England. Its managing director is Mr Harry Knopp, a former managing director of Lada Cars GB.

While formal dealer agree-ments have yet to be signed, a spokesman for Proton Cars UK said yesterday that dealers representing "a good percentage" of the planned network had already indicated their desire to take the

John Griffiths writes: Jaguar Cars' production reached a new record level of 28,200 units in the first nine months of this year, 14 per cent higher than in the same period last year.

Sales also set a new record at 26,323 - a 2 per cent increase over the 1984 period.

In line with its goal of reducing dependence on the US market – which absorbed 13,265 cars in the first three quarters, up 5 per cent
– Jaguar increased sales in Eu-rope over the period by 27 per

The greatest increase was in West Germany, heartland of Jag-uar's two main rivals, Hercedes and BMW, where sales reached 1,857 units against 1,412 in the

Sales in the US remain extremely buoyant, however, Jag-par reported that sales in Octoher set a new record for a single month of 2,619 cars with a showroom value of \$54sn. For the first 10 months, US sales are up 12 per cent at 15,884 cars.

economy 'free of constraints'

By Philip Stephens, Economic Corresponden

THERE ARE no obvious capaci constraints which would prevent Britain's economy from growing at a much faster rate than seen over the last five years, according to a report published today.

The inter-party pressure group Charter for Jobs says in its latest Economic Report that fears that in-dustry could not significantly expand its output without running into shortages of capital equipment or skilled labour are unfounded.

Recent studies from the London Business School, based on data from the Confederation of British Industry's (CBI) quarterly industri-al trends survey, have suggested that manufacturing companies are now working at close to their maxi-

mum capacity. Charter for Jobs, however, argues that while it is clear that Britain's capital stock has been badly hit over the last six years the main obstacle to higher output remains lack

Citibank freed from subpoena over release of documents

BY RAYMOND HUGHES, LAW COURTS CORRESPONDENT

CITIBANK has been freed from a subpoena requiring it to produce documents from its New York head office for use in a pending English High Court action involving alleged interpretarial found.

international fraud.

In the High Court in London yesterday Mr Justice Hoffmann said that the subpoena and an order that Citibank, which is not a party to the pending action, allow the docu-ments to be inspected and copied, were an infringement of US sover-

eignty.

Discharging both the subpoens and the order, the judge said that it should be possible to obtain the documents through the New-York court, which would give Citibank the protection of a New York court order, before the English trial starts

The judge said that the issue was important, especially to foreign banks such as Citibaak with branches in London.

\$250,000 by two defendants to his action, Mr Alan Shephard and Mr

Raymond Lanciault.

He alleged that they had pre-tended that, through certain US Liechtenstein corporation, they would procure him a \$360m loan to buy a property in Hong Kong. Whichever country
Mr MacKinnon paid a \$250,000 greatest pressure.

advance fee into the Citibank, New York, account of a Bahaman company, International Advisory Services

He now claimed that there had him the loan, and that it that occur a scheme to defraud him. Because International Advisory Services (1979) had since ceased to exist, Mr Mackinnon wanted to get details of Mackinnon wanted to get details of the relevance of the documents must have been known since his article.

and infringed US sovereignty:

Mr Justice Hollmann said that what was required was the produc-tion by someone not a party to liti-gation of documents outside the LR

stances should such a requirement be imposed on a foreign corpora-tion, and in particular a foreign bank, the judge said. "The need to exercise the court's jurisdiction with due regard to the severalizity of others is particularly important in the case of banks.

"Banks are in a special position because their documents are almost invariably concerned not only with The background to it was international fraud. An Australian-born
businessman, Mr Kenneth MacKinnon, had started an action alleging
that he had been swindled out of
country where the account is kept." country where the account is kent."

Il every country where a bank happened to carry on business as-serted a right to require that bank to produce documents relating to and Hong Kong companies and a accounts kept in another country. banks would be in the unhappy po-sition of being forced to submit to whichever country could apply the

justifying the making of an examtant order, the judge concluded. There was no question of hot pur-suit. The \$250,000 had almost terbeen no intention or ability to get tainly been long ago spirited away.

him the loan, and that it had been a Mr MacKinnon had not satisfactori-

He obtained inspection orders and subpoenas against Citibank would not be possible to get the de-Bank and Bank of America in re- before the trial started on Novemspect of other documents relevant ber 25. Citibank had said it was will-

Net pay less for UK executives, says survey

MANAGING DIRECTORS in Brit- he gets a much larger gross salary ain rank behind their counterparts than his British counterpart. chasing power carried out by Inbu- ain and, if he is married with a famcon, management consultants,

Executives in France, Germany, the US and Canada are taking for cost of living the French managhome nearly two thirds as much again in earnings as their British counterparts, says Inbucon in an ar-

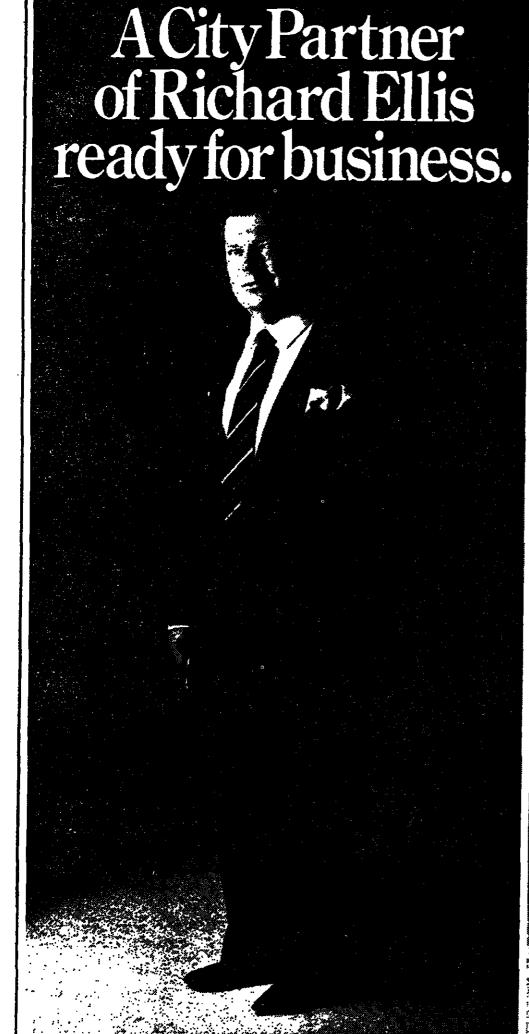
Mr Donald McClune, manager of Inducon's international salary re-rectors' salaries kept pace with insearch branch, gives as an example flation until about 1983. a French managing director of a Since then, increases have been company with a sterling equivalent higher than the current rate of turnover of £20m a year and says inflation.

in Italy, Spain, Austria and Austral- The Frenchman's living costs are ia in a comparison of pay and pur- about 3 per cent below those in Brit-

ily, he will have a much more le-

nient income tax level. "After the tax and after adjusting ing director is left with 63 per cent more to spend than the equivalent British managing director, Mr

A survey of executive salary in creases over the last 10 years, reported by Inbucon, shows that di-



On your left, Ian White F.R.I.C.S. A partner of Richard Ellis, Chartered Surveyors (Est 1773). He, like his colleagues, makes a sub-

stantial contribution to life in the Square Mile.

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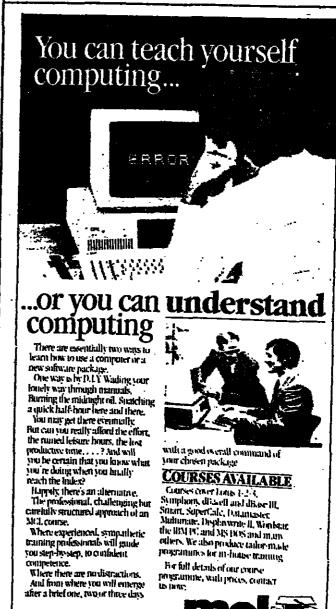
and the control of th



And these days, when real estate holdings in many corporations may amount to as much as 25% of total assets, effective control and management of such holdings are high priority in many boardrooms. Accordingly, the level of impartial advice, and the innovative techniques pioneered by Richard Ellis are much in demand.

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THE MANAGEMENT PAGE

R&D at Hewlett-Packard

Keeping close to reality

Peter Marsh on the US electronics group's approach to innovation

TECHNOLOGY Tesearchers must have freedom to think but at the same time not lose sight of commercial disciplines—that is the unwritten rule of research managers in most quarters of industry.

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of tage.

Yet practising this rule is far from easy. Unconstrained "creative" thinking has led to many of the technology world's commercial disasters, while heavy-handed supervision of scientists can curtail their free-whealths state and bill meet

scientists can curtail their free-wheeling style and kill good ideas at birth.

Hewlett-Packard, the U.S. electronics group with a turn-over of \$6bn and some 50 separate product divisions, has probably come as near as any-one to finding the right approach.

With a set of management methods thought out over 20 years, it attempts to keep its research staff flexible and alive to new thoughts. At the same time, Hewlett-Packard keeps these people in touch with commercial realities via a loosely-configured network of relationships with staff at the selling end of the company's activities.

This network is crucial to the company's success, according to Dr Don Hammond, director of Hewlett-Packard's Bristol research centre. The centre is one of six run by the company (as part of Hewlett-Packard Laboratories) to concentrate on long-term scientific investiga-

"Each laboratory head knows that if he is to succeed, his products must make it into the divisions," says Hammond. Hammond, 58, was one of the original directors of the 1,200strong Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, which was founded in 1965. He came to Britain last year to oversee the setting up

of the Bristol centre, the only one of the six establishments that is outside Palo Alto, California. The laboratories spend some \$90m a year on long-term research. Hewlett-Packard spends a further \$500m on "applied" aspects of research and development, activities left to the product divisions themselves. The latter are concerned with anything from medical equipment to office systems to instruments for factory autoHEWLETT-PACKARD picked Bristol for the site of its first research laboratory outside California after a long search in which it examined alternatives, both in Europe and

The research centre, set up a year ago to specialise in work on new computer systems and software, employs 50 people, a number scheduled to grow to 170 by 1988. The establishment is next door to 2 Hewlett-Packard factory that makes computer peri-pherals such as disc drives. According to Don Ham-mond, diector of the centre, Hewlett Packard examined

The main reason for set-

the merits of Seattle, Boston, North Carolina, Hawaii and

Colorado (as well as various European sites) before plumping for Britain's West

ting up a research centre out-The budget for the research laboratories is fixed at 1.43 per

cent of the previous year's turn-over of the group.

Bill Hewlett and David
Packard, the company's
founders, originally set the ratio at L5 per cent. The ratio was later reduced slightly - the remaining sum being allocated to corporate research.

Even though Hewlett-Packard has suffered its share of the computer world's current problems—sales have dipped and the had to take a 5 per cent pay cut—no one is considering changing the ratio. "Our job is to make top management feel good about that 1.43 per cent," says Hammond. "We don't take it for granted but as long as we perform well, we think

Quantifying the performance research laboratories is notoriously difficult. Hewlett Packard's technique is every year to give each of the six centres a set of broad strategic guidelines. This is done through discussions between the laboratory heads and Joel Birnbaum, the company's vice-president of research and development, who reports directly to John Young, the chief executive.

The guidelines are deliber-

side California was to obtain new technical scientific thrusts—to avoid what Hammond calls the "bandwagonism" that can follow the grouping of researchers in one location. Hewlett-Packard also wanted a research centre in Europe to reflect the fact that 30 per cent of its sales come from this market.

than the sum spent on the

original research. If it does nothing else, the rigmarole

keeps researchers on their toes

and presses home the point that

they are accountable to the world outside the laboratory.

As a rough guide, Hammond

says that between 100 and 200 different technology thrusts are taking place in the six laboratories. About half of them (20)

at any one time) eventually make an impact on a product

about to enter the market place.

The technologies could include.

The technologies could include, for instance, new kinds of computer architecture, advanced chip-making techniques or novel ink-jets for office printers.

The onus is on the laboratories, not the operating divisions, to come up with the radical thoughts for future activation.

vities. That is the case, in particular, in research in artifi-

cial intelligence that could pro-vide new forms of "thinking"

computers, an area under

special study at the Bristol

centre.
Dr John Taylor, recruited to

serve as second-in-command to Hammond in Bristol from a top

this with the "customer-con-

tractor approach commonly adopted in the research

ments of a government organisa-tion) come up with specific

research goals and expect their laboratories to meet them.

nique has merits in that it

forces people to think in a

focused way and is relatively simple to administer and cost.

The drawback, however, is that

it compels people to think in constrained channels and can

cut out creativity. While Hewlett-Packard insists

on a management structure

(albeit an informal one) which keeps researchers tied into the

company's operating divisions

it attempts still to leave indi-vidual scientists time for

unorthodox approaches.

Taylor says that staff are told

In this, the roles are reversed

The UK was chosen because of the good quality of its researchers in computers and related disciplines. This has been borne out in the recruiting process for the Bristol centre. Hammond says he has been astounded by the high quality of applicants for lobs, particularly from people in their 20s. Bristol finally won out over the other contenders for its good housing and countryside and pleasant climate.

ately vague—what is more they can be modified very easily through personal contacts be-tween laboratory workers and people in the operating divi-

Researchers are encouraged to spend as much time as pos-sible on the factory floors at the divisions to pick up ideas for product or process improvefrom manufacturing

There is a rigid policy to monitor the course of technology innovations from their appearance in the laboratories their incorporation in

Each year, the director of each laboratory attempts to relate his annual budget to the percentage of company profits that can be ascribed to advances made at his research

There is often some wrangling (mostly good-humoured) about how much of a contribution a specific laboratory made to a certain product. The figures are obviously open to interpretation and are used more as indicators than for strict accounting purposes.

With these provisos, the to spend 5-10 per cent of their figures normally show that pro-fits due to technical advances in other words activities that are two or three times greater senior managers have not



approved. "These are different approaches to a problem — what ing, management and manufac scientists call bench work." 'under the

job at the Ministry of Defence's Admiralty Research Establishment in Portsmouth, contrasts Company policy is to keep vague the very titles of the six laboratories—they mostly have anodyne names such as "systems performance"—and to change the centres' overall in that the selling divisions of a company (or the central depart-

brief every three or so years. "If you give these centres titles that are too tight, you limit researchers' licence to We don't want people to be highly focused—we want people who come up with great

Individual projects may swiftly cease in the light of changes in technical or market considerations, "You tell people their favourite projects come to an end," says Taylor. "Research laboratories are often littered with projects that no-one has known how to stop. We have to hire people who can go from

"renaissance people." They attitudes) if you keep going may have to change tack technically half a dozen times be aware not only of financial during their career as well as risks, but about people risks."

Limited States Bankruptcy Court. Southern District of Ohio Western Division Case No. 1-88-2039

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Re

ing, management and manufac-turing. They may be working on projects that will pay off in terms of a product or process innovation, in anything between two and 10 years.
In an interesting aside

Hammond points to the rarely discussed problem of giving scientists visible signs

This management problem says Hammond, can sometimes lead to the need to cut off research programme early, not because it is unpromising but simply to feed an idea into Hewlett Packard's selling divisions with which an individual researcher can identify.

Such a policy, according to Hammond, reduces the chance of the company gaining a sub-stantial reward—in other words it substitutes the certainty of a small technical advance for the possibility of a substantial breakthrough—but keeps its researchers happy and perform-

ing well.
"It is possible that the a romantic streak when he calls be too high. You take some Hewlett-Packard researchers losses (in terms of researchers "renaissance people" Labour relations

'Not enough change has taken place'

labour and labour relations really improved over the past seven years of decline in manufacturing? No. If anything it has worsened, according to Professor Chris Riggins, director of Bradford Management L'niversity's

From his vantage point at the former Victorian Congregationalist Training College that now houses the centre, Riggins has monitored the performance of managers in performance of managers in learning lessons within British industry and concludes that it looks to have been very patchy indeed—a view which cuts across that which Government ministers appear to believe.

While managers are more clued up on how to market their companies and products and are much better at con ing with information technically be doing worse when it comes to dealing with the men and women who work for them.

"I suggest that in manufacturing more than half the companies are doing less con sultation with their work-forces—whatever they might claim," says Higgins. "Management is tougher, and I be-lieve the more enlightened very senior managers are worried about this. Whatever Mrs Thatcher might think or say there is often a greater degree of polarisation in a company than there was be-

It is an opinion that does not go down too well with those who believe that reces-sion has transmitted fundamental shockwaves for the better through the ranks of the country's middle man-

Higgins, the former economic planning director for IPC. the publishing group, and the management centre's director for 14 years, sees a thousand managers a year from a cross section of manufacturing and service com-panies aftend courses at Bradford, some tailor-made for them at the centre. This is beside the management research projects for individual companies undertaken by the

centre and its throughput of

graduate students.

The area he works in, too. once a great bastion of production but like so many Northern and Midlands cities. now fallen on much harder times, encompasses scores of companies whose managements either have or have not come to terms with change.

Some good things have cer-tainly been happening, he argues. For one, professional managers have become a hit more professional.

Smaller manufacturing companies are also taking on professional engineers where in the past they either did not want them or could not attract them, he says.

But lifigins identifies plenty of adverse developments. "I do not think companies have gained much from the political climate. I think it has tended to help the less good managers in the less good managers in dealing with the shop floor."

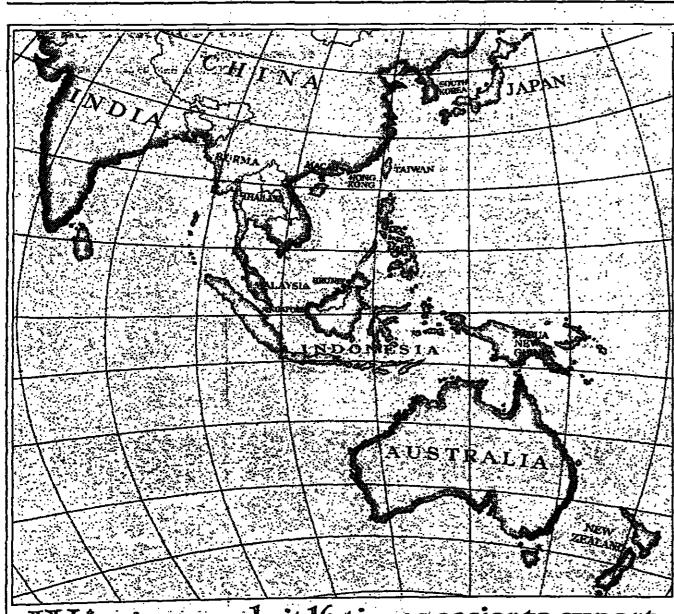
The believes that in stark contrast to what some managers might argue, companies need to go back to what they did in the 1970smany of them, was the adop-tion of more meaningful con-sultation than they practice

Some of the changes he sees are not clear cut. An increasing number managers are thinking more before making decisions— which is good—but only in the short term rather than laking the Japanese style long view, argues Higgins.

"In some companies middle managers are becoming more risk aversive," he says, meaning that companies re recruiting more organisation men who fit into the company's culture. That is probably helpful if

the company's culture is good, not so healthy if it is not. It all comes down to a company's culture, says Higgins and the best companies tend to be those not only with a strong internal ethos but which also use educational establishments (which presumably includes his own).

Nick Garnett



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Roy Garner in Tokyo reports on export openings for the West in office automation

Sunrise for software

PRESSURE ON Japan to information by such methods as increase its imports has rarely voice and interactive graphics. been stronger but there is one import the Japanese will are concentrating on improving

Failure to provide the necessary software, however, has led to a block to further growth.

Enterprising foreign companies and individuals are capitalising says that while market potential

Japan has of course faced special difficulties in O/A, the primary problem being the complex written forms of the Japanese language.
Of almost equal handicap is

that Japanese engineers, although trained in software technologies, lack expertise when organising innovative software development programs. On the sociological plane progress is further frustrated progress is further frustrated by the age-old custom of inter-departmental communication by means of hand-written notes. Taking the broadest perspec-tive, many in O/A believe no real substantial progress in broadening the use of office technologies can occur until a way is found to circumvent the use of the keyboard

se of the keyboard. In Japanese offices those in busy middle-management posi-tions and above have largely given up on earlier attempts to master personal skills in using office computers and informa-tion terminals and are resigned to acting as the supervisors of such work as handled by lower-

Bringing the Japanese executive into O/A will ultimately

import the Japenese will always welcome—western software expertise.

In office automation the Japanese have faithfully its English language Word Star word-processing softwares and industry leaders and bought business and personal computers in large quantities.

Failure to provide the neces.

is enormous the growth rate of business software is not enough to favour a straight investment approach. MicroPro planned to use funds from the sale of its English language software to bolster the high costs of starting

its operations.

The aim was to develop a software package which could offer simultaneous operation with both kanji (Chinese characters used in the Japanese language) and English language word processing functions. With Japanese systems the user normally must choose either one language or the other. Mr Hurford recalls that at the

planning stage of TwinStar the company's first problem came in deciding what the Japanese customer needed.

"In Japan the concepts of word-processing were very naive; nobody really knew what word processing was. Whereas people in the West have used word-processing concepts for the past 50 years or so, the Japanese don't have a feeling the process. Japanese word-processing products which handle kanji and use lots of graphics are what we would

usually call editors, not word-MicroPro's primary task was



Manji: characters provide opportunities forsoftware designers

consequently identified as educating the consumer about just what a word-processor could offer. Mr Hurford was convinced that if his company's word-processing softwares could be modified to accommodate Japanese requirements, notably for sophisticated graphics, their product could be ahead of the competition.

Market research was the next Market research was the next obstacle. The company has found this a little-developed science in Japan, with manufacturers simply putting a product on the market and waiting to see if it sells, an approach MicroPro felt unsuit-

MicroPro solved this by pro-viding distributors with detailed descriptions of planned products and then basing the judgment of their potential on the volume of goods the distributors said they would be prepared to

When it came to writing the TwinStar software it was essential to have Japanese pro-grammers guiding the process to ensure effective handling of

language problems. Research showed, however, that many Japanese software development Japanese software development programs were failing because the programmers were using a hardware development planning approach for software projects. "Japanese management don't realise that you can't throw people at a software problem," said Mr Hurford, who feels that such difficulties have been behind problems in Japan's 5th

hind problems in Japan's 5th generation computer project. An optimistic view of market potential is also held by Mr Bill Margerison of the US, who has recently formed his own word-processing and general communications functions software company, Nippon Computools.

Mr Margerison says users seek improved file transfer capabilities to ensure exact document duplication and auto-matic conversion of data into

the design and processing of such documents as fivers and pamphlets, which normally need an outside printing company. Computool's main, product is the "Computoolment", software, which offers "Japanese" w/p functions for personal computers.

uters. Mr John Elemáns, a speialist in office systems software who works on a contract basis dor Japanese companies, says there are "endless opportunities" in Japan for foregness with sufficient skills. ware skills.

Mr Elemans echoes Mr Hur-ford's view of a widespread ignorance of the potentials of office systems. Software de-velopers, he says, "he'er think about who's going to use the software, or how to use it, and the user support is pathetic."

Users also have "an in credible amount of naivers," he says. "One business customer recently asked me if I could build him a system where he could speak to the machine in-

Self-diagnostic computers make repairs easy

manufacturers who may never have changed a light bulb now have the opportunity to repair their own £400,000 computer if they bought it from Stratus, a leading supplier of fault-tolerant computing systems.

Yesterday Stratus, waich has about 900 customers world wide, opened its European support centre, in Hounslow west London, It houses a high performance Stratus computer which is the nerve centre of the company's remote service

Stratus computers are built Stratus computers are built, with their own fault-inding diagnestics. If a component fails a processor board, say, or part of the semiconductor memoly—the computer carries on working normally because all components are duplicated. The computer, however, autematically dials the flourslow support centre and tells the computer there what has gone wrong

WYORK wrong A new component is sent to the installation either by mail or messenger. The arrival of the new part may be the customer's first indication that anything is amiss. It is then a simple matter for the customer to pull out the failed board and replace it.

Mr. David Taylor, managing president of Stratus, announced director of Stratus in the UK, in London that the company says: "Anybody can do it. In Intended to support interfact, we know when come mational rules governing the breaks take place in some in, way computers can be constallations."

Yesterday Mr William Foster.

Yesterday Mr William Foster.

stallations.
"People pull boards out to
show their colleagues how show

UK subsidiary last year and is forming a company in the

Netherlands; and another in-West Germary. It is rapidly becoming a sig-uncant player in a market



Tandem, but which everybody agrees is key to the future development of comparate computing systems.

Fault-tallerant computers are designed nevel to fall outright but to continue working in all buildings but on the power to be suited. kansie "Then thes " begrade gracefully " recording all their data safely read; to mick up a restart at the point they see off.

Stratus under their own brand names. Yesterday Mr William Foster, president of Stratus, announced an London that the company

to support all the component parts of a theoretical reference model for open systems inter-connection being developed by the International Standards Organisation

Organisation.

The principal marketing areas for fault-tolerant computers of the kind made by Tandem and by Stratus has been finance and banking where a computer "off-the air" for even a few minutes can mean substantial loss of profits.

Both companies are mounting considerable campaigns to per-suade London's financial com-munity that it will need financial software running on fault-tolerant hardware to guarantee operations after the City's "Big Bang" next October.

-- ALAN CANE

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Silicon cell efficiency claim

SOVONICS Selar Systems of Las Vegas claims to have achieved a record conversion efficiency of 12.7 per cent in fine laboratory for its amorphous stitcom cells. Conversion efficiency defines the proportion of sunlight energy falling on the cell that is converted into plectrical energy. It is important since it determines the amount of electrical power a system can produce for a given area of solar array.

array. High stability is claimed for the three layer construc

for the three layer construction. The company says the cell will retain more than 90 per cent of its efficiency over 20 years.

Sovonics, a partnership of Standarti. Off. Company and Manergy Conversion Devices, turrently makes cells with efficiencies of about 3 per cent. The cell material is made in foot-wide, 1,000 ft long strips which are cut up to make rural and third world power supplies. More from the US on (313) 280 1900. power supplies. More from the US on (313) 280 1900

Ribbon security

ALTHOUGH MANY cos panies go to some trouble to dispose of sensitive docu-ments by shredding them, rather tower have realised that typewriter ribbons pose a similar threat if they are simply' thrown into waste

According to Eba Imago of Newhory, ribbon cassettes cannot be put through ordin-ary office ghredders and it is special precamions are taken.
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a unit called Carbon 2000
which destroys whole ribbon

cassettes in bulk beyond any possibility of recovering information. It will also shred video cassettes, floppy disks, files and similar office items that cannot be dealt with by ordinary persons.



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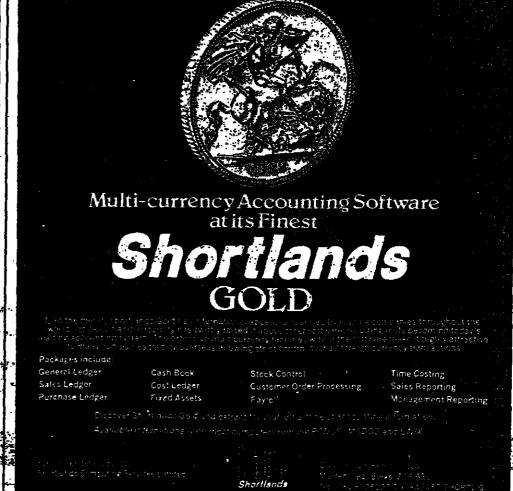
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By DAVID MARSH

LIKE PLANETS coming under a new configuration of gravitational forces, French banks are slowly being forced to give up the old ways of the solar system and move to fresh orbits.

A unique constellation of factors—the continued fall of French inflation, world-wide financial deregulation and probable denationalisation moves from next year onwards
— is confronting the banks with problems and challenges which will greatly tax their strength over the next 12 months.

Like other Continental countries, which have long practised universal backing but fallen well behind the pace of financial revolution in London and New York, France faces a probably painful period of adaptation in its banking and financial mar-

Accelerating disintegration abroad of the barriers between equity and debt markets, between long and short-term instruments, and between the different geographical market-places themselves has coincided with a different set of specific changes taking place within

The progressive fall in French to boost capital ratios.



Prime Minister Laurent Fabius: new initiatives have surprised many bankers

inflation to around 5 per cent this year, the symbol of the French Socialists return to the French Socialists' return to the fold of international economic orthodoxy, has steadled the franc against the Deutsche prospective moves to sell off the most profitable institutions to the private sector. external economic constraint on to the private sector.

The squeeze on m

It also coincides with a period when the investment community is starting to scrutinise banks' balance sheets much

However, the main French commercial banks—particularly the Big Three, nationalised in 1945—have relied on a combination of high inflation and interest-free deposits to hustled to the profit of the past two years, to rebuild profitability in the past two periods of the past two years, to rebuild profitability in the profitability in the past two years. period of increasing real interest rates, during the past two bination of high inflation and years, to rebuild profitability interest-free deposits to build after the earnings low-point of up large netail networks and 1982. But as a result of the overheads over the past two downward pressure on handless.

World	French ranking (by assets)	Bank	Assets (\$	Capital
7	1	BNP	98.99	1.5
*	ż	Credit Agricole	92.43	3.83
10	3	Credit Lyennais	96.50	1.03
11	4	Societe Generale	87.14	1.18
31	\$	Cie Fin. de Paribas	56.30	2.04
77	6	CIC Group	27.91	388
83	7	Indosuez	25.92	569
99	\$	Banques Poulaires	20,29	671
109	9	BFCE	18.51	133
117	10	Credit Comm. de France	16.76	313

The French Government is firmly set on breaking down barriers between the fragmented sectors of the nation's financial community. The banks meanwhile face challenges which will greatly tax their strength in the coming year.

bination of high inflation and interest-free deposits to build up large retail networks and overheads over the past two decades.

Cuts in interest rates caused by disinflation are exerting a new source of cost pressure. This threatens to hite into already-meagre profits just at the time when French banking regulators and the international markets are focusing ever greater attention on the need to boost capital ratios.

Last attention of high inflation and years, to rebuild profitability after the earnings low-point of the owning staff costs. One of the cluster of objectives are subject to banking sector was widened in interest rates since the summer, some of the bigger banks are in the time when French banking to feel the profits of the few overriding nationalization objectives which has actually been accomplished has resulted in holding down

settlements—at a time when their overall costs are still being forced up well beyond the inflation rate by purchases of computers and electronic pay-ments equipment—has not ments equipment—has not been the only illustration of the move to realism in the banking



Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy: everyone will benefit from deregulation

an assault on the high level of bank provisions. The Govern-ment now admits without ideological hang-ups that high pro-visions—even though they re-duce considerably dividends and other payments made to the and other payments made to the state—not only constitute a necessary bulwark against increasing risks on banks' foreign lending, they also help compensate for the traditional lack of capital adequacy of French banks—itself partly a consequence of the state's inability to inject fresh capital into the Big Three over the past 40 years.

The need to boost the banks' capital backing towards accepted international standards is universally recognised. The Bank of France this summer tightened

40 years.

Minister in 1981 originally led nent capital resources compared with total credits.
Nationalised banks have returned to the stock market

returned to the stock market to raise permanent capital in the form of titres participatifs (TPs) (non-voting loan stocks) and, more recently, certificats d'investissement (Cl) (non-voting preference shares).

Societe Generale, the bank which has been the most innovative in its financing, led the way with the first Cl issue last year, only after wrangling with the Treasury over the possible consequences of bringing in private shareholders ing in private shareholders (albeit without voting rights) into its capital.

Other banks believe CIs represent a cheaper way of raising capital than TPs—provided, that is, the bank has an adequate profits outlook.

Societe Generale, which has also led the property description sector.

Mr Laurent Fabius, the ing banks to move towards a Societe Generale, which has present Prime Minister, in his target of 5 per cent for their apprenticeship days as Budget capital ratios, defined as perma-

to bolster capital resources, has 16 per cent of its capital held by private shareholders as a result of CI warrants attached to its subordinated issue this

The other main area, over which there is also a new-found consensus, concerns deregulaconsensus, concerns deregula-tion, Mr Pierre Beregovoy, the Finance Munster, and his advisers are firmly set on breaking down barriers between fragmented sectors of the French financial markets. He is operating within the

limits of an extremely regulated system. Exchange con-trols, despite relaxation in some relatively minor areas, have hardly been touched. But Mr Beregovor has also mittated or supported other efforts to open up new markets in areas like options and futures trad-ing. And his action coincides with signs of relative liberalism in other financial fields — for instance, the authorisation given to Citibank to buy the Soficam banking group which has branches in Paris and the

Mr Beregovov has been trying to convince the financial community that deregulationeven in modest French style-is, in the words of one top official, "more than a zero sum game"; in other word, that everyone will benefit.

Given the strength of the lobby groups in Mr Beregovoy's path, this has been a difficult message 10 put across. Even more fundamentally, some seasoned bankers believe that Mr Beregovoy in his deregulatory zeal is not quite aware of the full impact that his measures, if carried to their logical limit, could have in toppling some entrenched pillars of the French banking and financial system. Bankers question whether

the setting up of homogeneous interest debt markets,

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

YOU WERE THINKING OF FINANCING THE OPERATION AS USUAL, AND THEN ...

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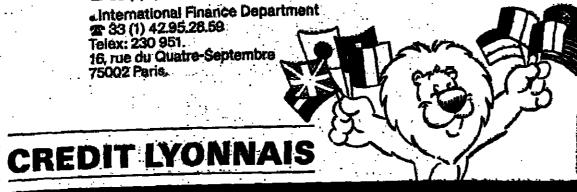
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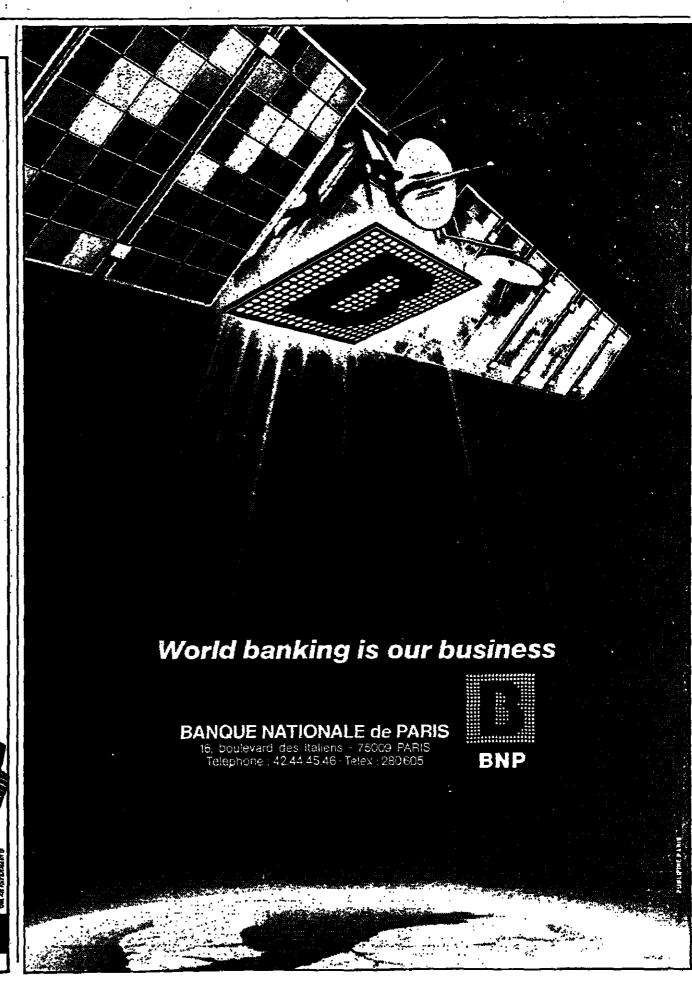
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Changes in 1986 DAYID MARSH

WHEN THE Government nationalised 36 commercial banks, and the Suez and Paribas financial holding companies, in February 1982, it also replaced all the chairmen (as well as the head of the already state-owned Big Three). The new incumbents were not particu-larly amused to find themselves summoned to the Rue de Rivoli for regular communal talk-ins

with Mr Jacques Delors, the then Finance Minister. The Government is now letting out a few notches on the leash holding the nationalised banks. Quietly but symbolically, the Finance Ministry has decided, this year, to phase out the regular gatherings, increas-ingly regarded by bankers as a waste of time.

The nationalised banks have had to put up with a great deal less interference from ministries during the past two years over industrial intervention. This partly reflects the general ebbing of big corporate problem-cases throughout the economy, now limited, according to one senior banker, to Renault and the still-struggling

One nationalised bank in a Government-engineering rescue package in 1983 was forced to enter the capital of a big privately-owned manufacturing company. It has since been able to profess from a since been able enter the capital of a big the random and sucz noting privately-owned manufacturing companies and their attached company. It has since been able banks, as well as Credit Componies stock market price to smaller profitable banks like sell off quietly some of its Societe Lyonnaise de Banque and Societe Marsellaise de

forced by the Government to inject capital into the newly-dates.

nationalised industrial groups An
in spring 1982 may now, as a has pu
result of a rise in most of the
value

reforms tion divestment price) be sit-ting on sizeable unrealised investment profits.

A semi-consensus has grown A semi-consensus has grown up that the system of gentleman's agreements, which have governed relations between the Big Three banks and the state since they were taken into state ownership in 1945, is not the best model for running the rest of the commercial banking system. The agreements laid down

effectively, that the banks would show compliance with state directives and a willingness to live without new injections of shareholders capital. In return, the state would be undemanding in its requirements for divi-dends, allowing banks to plough the majority of their profits first, into increasing and remunerating their staff and, over the past few years, into boosting their provisions on risky

Inefficiencies

It is because of the obvious inefficiencies of this system that any new government which takes office after March 1986 is likely to return progressively to private ownership at least the more profitable banks brought into state ownership in 1982.

The Right, the most likely candidate to take power next year, has promised sweeping denationalisation, including, eventually the Rig. Three hanks

tually the Big Three banks. The Paribas and Suez holding

shares on the bourse. and Societe Marsellaise de Indeed, the banks which were Credit would be the most likely initial denationalisation candi-An opposition study group

nationalised industrial groups An opposition study group in spring 1982 may now, as a has put an overall capitalisation result of a rise in most of the value on the Big Three state companies' fortunes (and in banks of about FFr 25bn, with their prospective denationalisa-



Jean-Yves Haberer, former Treasury director and now, chairman of Paribas (right), where profits have continued to rise smoothly since nationalisation. Meanwhile, the Government Opposition is planning wide denationalisa-tion of banks if it wins power

present at least another FFr

Denationalisation fever has already led to a purchase offer being made informally to banks like Indosuez from French and foreign industrial and financial groups. In the expectation that some shares will be sold abroad (although the Right would be expected to place a limit of per-haps 20 per cent).

Several merchant banks in London and New York are try-ing to prepare themselves to take part in the sell-off.

The Opposition almost cer-tainly has under-estimated the difficulties of returning to full private ownership some of the big banks. They owe their top credit ratings abroad not to their relatively slender capital resources but to their backing by a sovereign state share-holder.

A senior director of a leading nationalised bank, himself in favour of denationalisation, points out that his institution as made considerable efforts to increase its capital resources in the last two years. Pointing out that half his balance sheet is in foreign currencies, he says how-ever, he would prefer an intermediary period of three or four years to boost further capital backing, before exposing the bank as a privatised institution to the cold glare of the New York credit rating agencies. The Opposition's fervour over denationalising the banks taken over in 1982 — which make up

only about 13 per cent-of total bank lending throughout the economy — almost certainly misses the main point over state control of the financial system.

It would be much more im-portant, and certainly more difficult, to break up the monolithic state organisations of the Caisse des Depots, Post Office and Treasury banking networks which themselves account for more than 30 per cent of the overall banking system.

The most visible way for a

The most visible way for a new government to try to make an impact on the banks next year will be through changing At the Big Three banks, Mr Jean Deflassieux, the Socialist

chairman of Credit Lyonnais, is a virtual certainty to be replaced if the Right comes to power. Paradoxically, having been a long-standing head of the bank's international net-work, he is the only chairman of the Credit Lyonnais in recent years to have arrived with a thorough knowledge of

Enemies

Mr Rene Thomas at Banque National de Paris may also be in danger, because of his Socialist leanings, even though he has presided over a continued building up of the bank's profits and capital funds. Mr Jacques Mayoux, at Societe Generale, whose waspishly antiinterventionist views are being interventionist views are being increasingly aired in public as the elections approach, is a favourite to stay on even though he has himself made enemies on the Right.

Mr Jean-Yves Haberer, the self-confident former Treasury lirector now chairing Paribas, where profits have continued to rise smoothly since nationalisa-tion, believes he will be allowed to stay on if he wants to after 1986. It is significant, however, that he has failed to develop a raport with his key executives, inherited from the pre-nationalisation period. Mr Jean Peyrelevade, the chairman of Suez, would almost certainly be replaced by the Right because of his former position as chief aide to Mr Pierre Mauroy, the Socialists' first Prime Minister.

Mr Peyrelevade has proved himself prudent and a good manager. But the kudos associated with the chairman-ships of both Suez and Paribas is sufficiently strong that pretenders to the thrones are already clustering around the right wing politicians likely to be France's banking kingmakers next year.

Men to watch: here, and on the following page. FT correspondents in Paris feature profiles of three high flyers on the financial scene.

Highly regarded economist

Michel Pebereau of CCF PROFILE BY PAUL BETTS

MICHEL PEBEREAU is not as well known as his older brother Georges, the chair-man of France's nationalised Compagnie General D'Elec-tricite group.

No week goes by without Georges Pebereau's name being mentioned in the French business Press, for the CGE chairman is endlessly cooking up some major industrial or business deal. His latest involves an agreement with American Tele-His latest involves an agree-ment with American Tele-phone and Telegraph to give the U.S. giant 15 per cent of the French public telephone switching market in return for helping CGE to penetrate the U.S. market.

Far more discreetly and out of the spotlight, Michel Pehereau has been the prin-cipal architect in the recent development and growth of Credit Commercial de France (CCF), France's fourth largest commercial bank and the biggest bank to be taken into state ownership by the Socialists in 1982.

As managing director of CCF, Pebereau, who is only 43 years old, has played a major role in pushing the bank into new electronic banking technologies — it is now a leader in this field in France—in developing the group's corporate and Euro-bond business, and increasing its international presence.
Indeed, CCF took control
this summer of the Loudon
stockbroking firm Laurence

Prust in what represented the first major foray by a large French bank in the



Michel Pebereau: principal architect in the growth of CCF.

newly deregalated UK financial markets. Michel Pebereau became banker by accident. If the left had not won the elections in 1981, he would have become the next head of the French Treasury. He had already turned down an offer aiready turned down as our from former President Giscard d'Estaing to join him as an aide at the Elysen to pursue his career up the French Treasury ladder.

Pebereau was the "directeur de cabinet" of Rene Manor: the former sennant.

Monory, the former economy minister, between 1978-80, and then headed financial and monetary affairs at the Trea-sury. "If the left had not won, he would have been the directeur du Tresor. There is no question about it." says a close friend of the CCF man-

aging director.

The young CCF banker has the pedigree of French success, having studied at the Ecole Polytechnique and the clitist Ecole Nationale d'Administration, a stable for all leading civil servants in

His reputation as an economist is also widely estab-

ished. He lectures at "Sciences-Po"—or the Institut d'etudes politiques de Paris as it is formally known —with a highly regarded course on the instruments of economic policy. Indeed, some students say that his course at "Sciences-Po" is now more popular than the economic course of M Raymond Barre, the former prime satulater and one of the leading appendion candidates for the 1885 French presidential rection. Pebercau is about to publish his "Sciences-Po" course in a book and is warking on another book on inflation.

At CCF he has also maintained continuity by staying at the bank after the Socialing government decided to replace M Daniel Dequen, the hank's chairman. With M Claude Jouven. The Government's decision not to renew M Depuen's mendate as chairman last year considerably upset the bank's managers and their morale.

Pebercau could have left the hank at the time but now

ers and their morale.

Pehereau could have left the hank at the time but preferred to stay on. M. Jacques Calvet, the chairman of the private Peugeot group, asked Pehereau to join him, especially to help with the recovery efforts at Peugeot's large Citroen division.

When M Calvet was chairman of Bauque Nationale de Paris, France's largest commercial bank, before the left came to power, he had also

eame to power, he had also asked Pebercau to come to work for him at BNP. At work for him at BNP. At the time, Pebereau had his sights fixed on the top Treasury job. It would now be not at all surprising to see Problem Bring offered the chairman's job at BNP or of one of the other "big three" hanks (BNP, Societe Generale, Credit Lyonnas) if the opposition, as is widely expected, wins the majority in next year's general circ

A man with dynamic ideas

Jean-Pierre **Huchon of Credit Agricole**

PROFILE BY DAVID MARSH

CREDIT Africole, the farmers' co-operative bank, has more than double the capital of the Banque Nationale de Paris. It manages the largest volume of unit trusts and mutual funds of any French institution. Next year, it will be leading

the way in distributing memory-containing "smart" cards containing "smart" cards around the country for uses like cashless shopping and giving access to videotex services. Yet access to videotex services. Yet there is still some doubt whether it is really a bank.

The aim of Mr Jean-Pierre Huchon, the chief executive and managing director since January of the group's central organisation, the Caisse Nationale de Credit Agricole, is to dispel those doubts

those doubts.

Mr Huchon, formerly the chief aide of Mr Michel Rocard, Minister of Agriculture in the Socialist Government before he resigned in April, is only 39. He also will be regarded by many on the right as a political appointment, and therefore may face the danger of eviction if the Opposition wins power after

the Opposition with power after next year's elections. On the other hand, he has been looking after agricultural affairs during a long period of his civil service career, under both right and left wing governments. And his ideas on inject-ing new dynamism into the structure and operations of the "Green Giant" are not likely to be basically at odds with those of any new government after March 1986.

Impressive

Credit Agricole has been able to build up its impressive resources—it has a capital ratio of 7.5 per cent, mouthwateringly good by French banking standards—as a result to privilege awarded by the of privileges awarded by the Government to back its special function of distributing subsidised loans to the farming com-

munity.

However, as Mr Huchon is at pains to point out, since 1978, the bank's fiscal and other privileges have gradually been stripped away.

It is also competing ever more closely with commercial banks, moving into towns from rural areas in a way which has sent alarm bells ringing among some members of the established banking community. The bank's FFr 2.5bn issue of titres participatifs (non-voting loan stock) launched on the stock market in October—making use of a change in the law in July allowing co-operative groups to make such issues—underlines, anowing co-operative groups to make such issues—underlines, Mr Huchon says, its need to go to the market place to raise funds just like any other bank. Credit Agricole's clientele has traditionally been rural-based and of modest means. Mr Huchon's aim is to continue the bank's gradual drive upmarket by expanding its share support for high performance of consumer credit, where it small businesses, has only 6 to 7 per cent of the Mr Huchon this summer put

much less than its potential.

has only 6 to 7 per cent of the Mr Huchon this summer put banking market at present, into effect a management shake-

up at the bank, which is formally In its main-line agriculture under the control of the Finance business, he says, the emphasis and Agriculture Ministries. He will in future be in providing, has brought in several previous increased quality in services to top advisers from Socialist min-the farming community, rather isterial teams.

the farming community, rather than simply increasing loans. Its expertise in financing agrifood trade and business ventures also, he believes, gives the bank a solid way of building up progressively its international activities, now making up about 15 per cent of the balance sheet.

Credit Agricole should also capitalise further, he says, on its decentralised structure by ex-

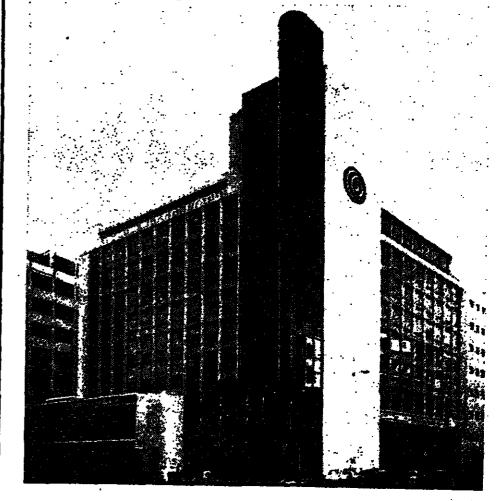
panding further its regional spilt in 1986.



Jean-Pierre Huchon: "I want k fresh drive, he says

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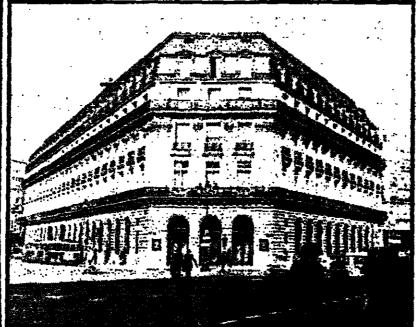
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BNP (left), number one in the top ten French banks by assets; and (right), Societe Generale, the bank which has been the most innovative with its financing, leading the way last year with the first issue of non-voting preference shares

Deregulation takes hold

Opening up the markets DAVID MARSH

THE French Finance Ministry is pressing ahead with a series of initiatives, to open up and deregulate part of the financial markets, with a speed and ardour which have surprised many bankers.

Taking over the mantle in July last year from Mr Jacques Delors, the man credited with steering the Socialist Government back to the path of economic righteousness, Mr Pierre Beregovoy, the Finance Minis-ter, has left in no doubt that

he would like to go down in history as a financial reformer. Modernising and increasing the efficiency of the remarkably over-regulated French financial system adds up to a gargantuan task-but one which must be attempted for a series of inter-

Lowering the cost of financial intermediation has become a vital necessity to accompany the uccess in fighting inflation and improve prospects for business creation, is now one of the Socialists' economic policy priorities.

The Government, now borrowing between FFr 90 and FFr 100bn a year on the domestic capital markets to finance the budget deficit (it had virtually no capital market exposure at the end of the interest in boosting market efficiency to lower debt service

Competition with Anglo-American market-makers trying to capitalise on world wide deregulation has added to the need to upgrade the financial

capability in Paris.

Mr Daniel Lebegue, the director of the French Treasury, has recently spoken of Paris facing a "problem of survival" as a financial centre. Mr Xavier to individuals areas of bank Dupont, chairman of the French Stockbrokers Association, ad-

mits that competition from the City of London is the number one factor spurring modernisation of the bourse.

Finally, the Socialists have been keen to use a period of macroeconomic calm in France to drive home microeconomic reform and score points off the Opposition in the run up to next March's general elections.

The previous period of rightwing government in France, at least up until 1978, coincided with stagnation of the French financial markets. Despite the Opposition's present strong commitment to economic liberalism, some foreign bankers in France have private worries that a right-wing government next year might actually prove to be less active in pushing financial deregulation in certain key areas than has Mr Beregovoy.

The Finance Minister's reforming crusade has to viewed against the backcloth of continuing highly developed controls over foreign exchange movements and credit, which have been eased only margin-ally by the Socialists over the last 12 months. Additionally, 50 per cent of loans throughout the economy are at subsidised interest rates. Mr Beregovoy is making an effort (both for reasons of market efficiency and, most fundamentally, to save budgetary cash) to cut the state's intervention in this latter area — but the job will also be a long and difficult one.

Competition

Mr Jean Dromer, the pugnacious head of the French Bar Association, bails the Ministry's deregulatory zeal as "positive in spirit." But he points out that in some areas there is a danger of partial deregulation simply opening up more pockets of unfair competition.

One example is the recent controversy over plans for the Post Office savings network to link up with the Sofinco credit bank in making consumer loans to individuals—one of the few areas of banks' loan business which is currently expanding.

Mr Dromer, arguing that the with top class companies.

Post Office bank enjoys manifold advantages which the commercial paper saga ancial system" may go down as a historical landmark commercial banks do not (such as almost inevitable inconsistences parable, interms of development of the capital market, to the companies.

Rankers Louis XIV's revocation of the

Minister's over-eager announcement last December of the opening of a certificate of deposit market in Paris led to a wave of selling on the bond market, requiring nationalised banks a control of the paris led banks to organise a FFr 8bn rescue package (which ironically, like most such interven-tion exercises, turned out to be highly profitable for the institutions concerned).

The sell-off was prompted by fears that opening of new short restrictions as those imposed on term placement possibilities for the banks, would contradict investment institutions and efforts to control the money corporate treasurers could drain tens of billions of francs from tive credit controls, the bond market. Realisation They also accuse Mr Berethat the bond market—where new issue volume will soar to a new record of more than FFr 250bn this year—is dangerously reliant on short-term specific funds has since made the France,

tional funds. Ministry officials have announced that the market will probably total no more than FFr 10bn next year. Exactly how a theoretically liberalised

The desire to start up com-mercial paper slowly has molli-fied fears of withdrawals of liquidity from the bond market and has also calmed worries among bankers that they could lose profitable credit business

free postage—an important in the Government's approach ment of the capital market, to factor considering Credit Lyon-nais' postage bill last year came openly mock the Ministry's to only slightly less than its net profits) seems to have succeeded in having the move blocked.

The coint as amost inevitable inconsistences parable, interms of development's approach ment of the capital market, to Louis XIV's revocation of the development's approach ment of the capital market, to Louis XIV's revocation of the Louis XIV's revocation of t Many bankers are inclined to disparage some of M Beregovoy's initiatives. The Finance adequate accounts to allow full credit rating analysis. And they underline that Standard and

Poors and Moody's in New York took years rather than weeks to build up their expertise.

Money supply

Bankers also believe that to allow companies to short-circuit banking channels for their funding, without the same costs and supply through tight quantita-

govoy of over audacity in choosing to build up a market which internationally has been developed only in the U.S.-for

Finance Ministry much more "Commercial paper is not an cautious in formulating any indispensable accessory for measures which might cause deregulation," says icily a top these sums to roam to new executive in one of the big homes.

The more measured approach bankers, however, point out that the home reflected in the Ministry was the commercial paper is not an anomalised banks. Other has been reflected in the Minis-try's latest idea, to set up a commercial paper market under there is no reason why France which company treasurers can should not eventually follow

> In spite of criticism over specific proposals, there is no doubt about the invigorating effect of the change in the financial air.
> "It is the most importa

sector is to be subject to regulation to achieve this ceiling is, however, still not clear.

"It is the most important transformation for 30 or 40 years," says Mr Bruno Roger, one of the partners at Lazards Another senior banker, a

though confessing his fears that the deregulatory trend could be blocked or reversed next year

Moving into new orbits

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

allowing banks and investors full spectrum of maturities, is compatible with the present rigid system of controlling credit growth through quantitative ceilings. The old excudrement system was phased out at the end of last year. But the new credit control mechanism. although more flexible in some respects (for instance through giving banks more freedom to grant credits if they raise their capital) adds up to a system which generally is as strict if not stricter than the old one. banks is more like two thirds

Bankers believe the Bank of France has little alternative in the longer term, if the authorities are really serious about liberalisation, to moving to an Anglo Saxon style open market policy — using the greater variety of Government debt instruments now available — to control money and credit growth. This would, however, entail much more volatile shortterm interest rates than France has been used to.

Bankers also point out the of the third potential time inconsistency of trying to lower bomb behind Mr Beregovoy's barriers between different deregulation approach concerns financial sectors—for instance, the basic question of the structhe mainstream bond market ture of French banking. unlikely to be a and short-term Treasury bonds, when their tax treatment at between different sections of Gordian knots. present differs widely.

Consultation

management of bond issues for the Government and state in-

stitutions to the Big Three Banks and Paribas has been of

particular benefit to Banque

Indosuez, Credit Commercial de

France and Credit Agricole, The Ministry is also progressively lifting controls on the calendar for smaller issues.

The banks complain as a group however that a state-im-

money for the state.

 Mr Beregovoy's initiative in market for Paris — which has been the object of widespread consultation over the last few weeks — could also end up destroying another sacred cow. Allowing companies to short-circuit the banking system to raise funds through U.S.-style paper would only risk diverting large volumes of short-term funds currently held by corporate treasurers on the bond

proup however that a state-time posed liberalisation of primary market bond commission rates, brought in last winter, has simply lowered placement com-missions to 1.3 per cent from 1.75 per cent and so saved money for the state Additionally, a fully fledged commercial paper market, by depriving banks of part of their credit business with top class Foreign banks in Paris which have been building up their corporate borrowers, could well force banks to try to seek higher margins on loans to capital market capacity also feel they are not, by far, allowed to compete on an equal footing with the indigenous banks, when smaller companies and personal borrowers. This presumably is Citibank in Paris is allowed to not the object of Ministerial manage a French state bond sssue, then Gallis-style deregupolicy. lation will really have come of

Even more strikingly, it could revive the long simmering

profits last year.

The lopsided earnings struc- coming years. of strength in past periods of Credit National, Achilles heel.

gross profits from margins on continues. credit business, against only 10 per cent on commissions-the breakdown among foreign to one third. banking, where banks will be

adopting more realistic pricing in charging customers for using "smart" memory cards in coming years, is already starting to change this situation. Commercial paper and the

general squeeze on margins with top class borrowers will accentuate this trend.

debate in France over restrict he markets, as well as Mr tions on banks' ability to Beregovoy's general attack on charge personal customers for subsidised credits - which services, especially cheques, still make up 50 per cent of which are processed free, but total lending throughout the to participate freely across a which cost about twice the economy - poses a real commercial banks' combined net question over the role of certain specialised banks in

> ture of French banks, a source State financing banks like Credit credit expansion, is now their Foncier and Banque Française du Commerce Exterieur will The French banks make an certainly have to adapt or risk average of 90 per cent of their redundancy if the move

Complexities

This adds to the problem of the future of the half a dozen The advent of electronic loss-ridden banks, nationalised by the Socialists by error in 1982. As most people, except their past and present chairmen admit, these banks should have been left to be completely merged with other institutions disappear altogether.

The ensemble of problems and challenges is enormous. Compared with present prag-matic Beregovoy policy of pushing the boat out and hoping for the best, the "liberal" solutions put forward by the present Opposition are unlikely to be any more suited

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Head of policy-making team

Jean-Charles Naouri DAVID HOUSEGO

IN BRITAIN it would be diffi-cult to imagine an adminis-tration in which the Prime Minister was in his late thirties and the permanent head of the Treasury in his early forties. But the French early forties. But the French system allows high flyers to fly much more quickly than in Britain. Thus, M Jean-Charles Naouri finds himself at the age of 35 in the key post of Directeur du Cabinet of M Pierre Revegovov the Min-Pierre Beregovoy, the Min-ister of Finance and Econ-

The post is a key one because the Directeur du Cabinet is

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the head of the minister's policy-making staff. In M Beregovoy's case the post is all the more influential because M Beregovoy—unlike most of his predecessors—had little previous experience of economic management before taking up his present post in

He also suffered from the disadvantage for a minister who wanted to leave his mark, that wanted to leave his mark that the main lines of macro-economic policy had already been etched out by M Jacques Delors and that there was little leeway to break free from them without undermining the Government's anti-inflation objectives.

ann-innation objectives.

Mr Naouri's strength has been to make the most of the limited room for manoeuvre that existed. A shy, retiring official without pronounced political opinions, he is suspicious of fine sounding declarations and of launching major reforms. His natural instinct is to chisel away at instinct is to chisel away at the corners in the belief that a succession of small changes can nonetheless yield major improvements.

It is in this spirit that he has approached the difficult exercise of cutting budget expendi-ture. There have been no savage reductions but a battening down of the hatches in every corner of the ad-ministration

M Naouri, like his Minister, is fond of recalling that when they ran together the Ministry of Social Security before moving to Finance, they pushed the nation's Social Security fund into surplus by a more scrupulous attention to the details of health spend-ing and by more shrewdly in-vesting the fund's cash balances to obtain a higher yield. The other area where M Nacuri has enabled his Minister to make his mark has been in the deregulation of the financial markets. Change



Jean-Charles Naouri: a key post at 35 as Director du Cabinet under Pierre Beregovoy

not to be left behind the other financial centres. But in opening the Pandora's box of the French financial markets, M Naouri was both conscious of the productivity gains to be had by simplifying France's complicated financial structure and of how politically to exploit the issue.

M Naouri initially ran into strong resistance from the banks over the introduction of Certificates of Deposit and has met it again this year.
with the bringing in of a new
market for commercial paper.
He claims that the banks were tenacious of their established privileges and failed to see that they would emerge at least no worse and possibly better off from the reforms.

was inevitable if Paris was He says that before the Government took the first step it already had a clear plan of the reforms it wanted achieve. Bankers generally doubt this, believing that the Government has stumbled across obstacles which it never suspected.

> M Naouri first joined M Beregovoy as his Directeur du Cabiner at the Ministry of Social Security after a brilliant academic career. He took the first part of his "bac" at the young age of 15, entered the Ecole Normale Superieure with the best marks of anybody in a genera-tion and left with a doctorate in mathematics in 1970. After that he spent three years at Harvard, studying economics.

The Paris Bourse DAYID MARSH

AFTER AN unexpected and unprecedented boom during the past three years, the Paris bourse is bracing itself for a period of challenges which could transform the French financial landscape.

The wave of deregulatory fever affecting London and New York, threatening Paris and other Continental bourses with possible migration of business to better equipped, lower-cost financial centres, is producing its own ripples in Paris. This has been the principal—but not the only—source of pressure on Paris to modernise its stock

market.
The other main factor has been the increasing impatience of the French banks with a system which leaves all the main bourse dealing cards in the hands of the protected

With French banks moving increasingly into securities compared with other world stock operations to compensate for markets), this summer took ebbing profitability in tradi-tional commercial banking, and to the brokers by banks in bond a cluster of hungry and well-capitalised foreign securties companies planning inroads into to effect in July, has probably

The Finance Ministry at present has no intention of tampering with the monopoly which dates from 1807, granting stockbrokers the exclusive right to carry out Paris securities trading. The surge in volumes over the past three years—bond trading has risen more than sixfold since 1981, equities dealing fold since 1981, equities dealing has nearly doubled—has led to a big increase in brokers' profits. The receipts have been ploughed into a mixture of new investment in information technology, improving the brokers' slender capital backing and enriching partners and their

Commissions

However, there are signs that the stockbrokers will in the future be facing tougher times. The Socialist Government, which for some time had been casting a jaundiced eye on big increases in the stockbrokers' indexed income (the actual com-mission rates are in fact low market deals.

The measure, which came in-

the Paris market, French stockbrokers know they are under
attack from several sides at
once.

The Finance Ministry at
present has no intention of

Banks and brokers will also be competing on an equal footing in the futures market for bonds and short-term financial instruments when trading becomes fully operational in September next year. The starting date for the initial phase of the market, originally set for Sen market, originally set for Sep-tember this year, has been post-poned for several months because of delays in setting up a computerised dealing system. But the market is expected to get under way by the beginning of the New Year.

New rules enlarging possi-bilities for stock market participants to act as principals and carry out jobbing functions, an-nounced in October by the Stockbrokers Association and the Asociation of French Banks, amount to another step inten-sifying competition between the

jobbing, where opportunities for taking positions in shares and bonds will become much more important than previously.

But banks are generally un-

enthusiastic about the idea of setting up joint dealing com-panies with stockbrokers. Plainly brokers — which need access to banks' capital to play an active role in market-making - have more to gain than the banks from such associations Bankers believe that forging

alliances with particular brokers would constrain their present ability to choose the best services from the roughly 40 members of the stockbroking community. Other bankers are afraid that the new jobbing trading rules could leave them exposed to aborbing large blocks of shares unloaded by dealers trading on the basis of insider information— an indiinsider information — an indi-cation that the Paris bourse could still do a lot to ensure that information travels at the same speed for all participants.

A general view is that the jobbing rules represent only an interim solution to the problem of reinforcing market liquidity and shaking up competition. In the long way resification. sifying competition between the two professionals.

Most banks, including the Sarbas and Suez investment banks as well as several foreign institutions like Citibank, are interested in playing a role in sobbing, where opportunities for

The man in the middle of the bourse cross-currents is Mr Xavier Dupont, chairman of the French Stockbrokers' Associa-

As evidence of the market's ingness to face up to its challenges, he cites not only co-operation with banks over futures trading and jobbing, but also the plan to move to continuous computerised trading (probably from about 10 o'clock to 4 o'clock) next year in a selection of the most active

stocks.

Trial runs are already being made using the computers of the Toronto Stock Exchange. Mr Dupont is aware that, once continuous trading is intro-duced replacing the present somewhat primitive fixing system, competition from for-eign market-makers in key stocks might increase rather than diminish.

Trading times

also plans a morning tracing session sometime next year to supplement the present two-hour midday trading spell.

After rises in the stock market index of 56 per cent in 1983, and 16.5 per cent last year, the hourse has risen about 16. the bourse has risen about 16 per cent this year, in spite of some undsteadiness since the summer. Mr Dupont classities the downturn in prices over the last few months as a "natural correction." One important reason seems to have been that foreign institutions, which

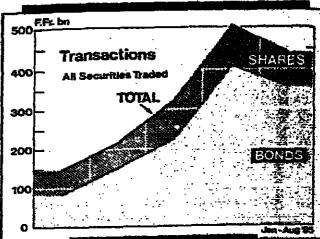
have been in the forefront of the price surge since March 1983, have since June been less enthusiastic in their assessment of the outloock of the Paris

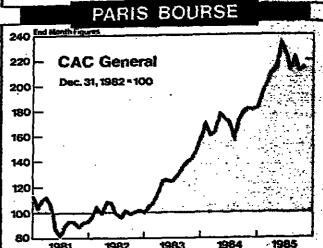
Exchange.

Uncertainties ahead of the general elections next March have driven a number of companies, this autumn, to advance rights issues and other capital raising operations. This has led to a heavy issue calendar since the beginning of September. There has also been some indigestion in the last few weeks on the second marché, which now boasts more than 100 stocks (including about 20 transferred from a previous unlisted section of the stock market when the second marche was opened in February 1983).

Mr Dupont believes the swing But he says with a smile: in the Socialists' economic
"To do nothing would be an policies sunce March 1983 and
even greater risk." The bourse
also plans a morning trading attitudes away from the tradiattitudes away from the tradi-tional refuges of property and gold, leave the market in a

healthy position.
As for the possibility of denationalisations from next year onwards, he says France will have to come up with investment incentives to back specific issues along the lines of the innovations used to sell British Telecom in the UK. He adds, the re-sale of French funity rather than a worry









At a food store in Limoges, a cashier inserts a cash card into the magnetic strip reader of an NCR electronic payment system. The amount is charged to the customer's account with Credit Agricole, the farmers' co-operative banking institution. This bank is in the vanguard of efforts to help retailers install. smart card terminals

Electronic applications

FRANCE OVER the past 12 months has taken great strides towards setting up a nationwide electronic payment system which could give the country a world lead in cashless banking

DAVID MARSH

Considerable questions still have to be answered over the financing of an estimated FFr 1bu investment in electropic payments hardware in the next four or five years. But there is no doubt about the wholesale commitment of the Government and the banks to setting up a system based on the "smart" micro-chip card invented by a Frenchman in

The banks succeeded in over-coming traditional feuding and rivalries in July 1984 by agree-ing to set up a standardised credit card system linking the commercial banks, the Post Office and savings network and the big Credit Agricole farmers'

A further important step was taken in September with the signing of an initial order from the inter-bank Carte Rancaire grouping for 12,4m CP-8 smart

" read " the personal code con-tained in the card to verify customers' transactions, as well

as other items of equipment. Banks will also pay for adaptation of existing terminals fitted in stores but new machines, which can cost machines, which can cost FFr 12,500 each to produce and install, are presumed to be acquired at the cost of the

retailing profession. The smart card, a rectangle of platic containing an in-built on installing cashless shopping micro-processor and memory, terminals throughout the can be used not only to carry country. The 1984 link-up out financial transactions. Its between the banks and a subother purposes range from making phone calls to carrying health records and controlling access to computer systems and

buildings.
The economic significance of the French banks' programme spreads well beyond country's borders. the

Standards

France has been heartened by news in October that the International Standard Organisation has agreed to adopt the CP-8
norm as an international
standard. Bull, which uses
technology developed by the
French inventor Mr Roland

Starting with a project to international credit card group, and 5bn o mers in four regions of France by the end of last year, the cards should be distributed completely around France by 1989. While Visa and American commissions for credit card to between 70,000 and 100,000 the total investment of Express are also testing the The September accord opened months has been held up both by arguments over tariffs and by shortages of hardware. The cards should be distributed completely around France by 1989. The total investment of Express are also testing the tarnsactions at around 0.4 per by the end of the decade. FFr 1bn represents the cost of French technology. French cent of the amount involved, This compares with

important springboard for selling the technology abroad above all in the U.S.

Mr Moreno has also been in contact with a number of Japanese electronics groups which could lead to the licensing of French smart card technology in Japan.

Successful introduction of the micro chip card in France will, however, depend crucially on agreement with the retail trade sequent agreement on aligning credit card tariffs was denounced by retailers as lead-

ing to a bankers' cartel.

Deadlock over the tariff structure, which at one point threatened to hold up installa-tion of terminals in shops and stores, has been broken with an agreement at the end of September under which tariffs paid by retailers on credit card trans-actions will be worked out on the basis of case by case

negotiations.
But some bankers have been voicing doubts that competitive pressure, forcing down commissions, could greatly lower the eventual profitability of the electronic payment system — Moreno, has up to now been electronic payment system—keenly aware of the competition seen above all as cutting the to impose a rival U.S. or huge processing costs French cards with the nationalised com-nuter group Bull.

Japanese standard.

Mastercard, the U.S.-based out each year of between 4bn

it eventually breaks out, seems smart cards over two or three years starting from next spring), the farmers' co-operative bank has about as many credit card customers as all the other banks (mainly grouped in the Carte Bleue organisation) put

together, Initiatives

Credit Agricole is in the van-guard of efforts to find financing initiatives to help retailers install smart card terminals. It has been lobbying for backing of low-interest rate government loans from the Industrial Modernisation Fund. Out of a FFr 300m loan which could be put towards financing acquisi-tion of terminals, the bank believes its share would be 20 to 30 per cent.

Underlining the rate at which France is wiring itself up for electronic banking, the French Banks Association estimates that 42,000 point of sale terminals were installed or ordered as of mid-1985. Of these, 25,000 were linked to the Carte Bleue organisation and 17,000 to the mutual and co-operative networks (Carte Verte)

Extension of the network of terminals over the past 12

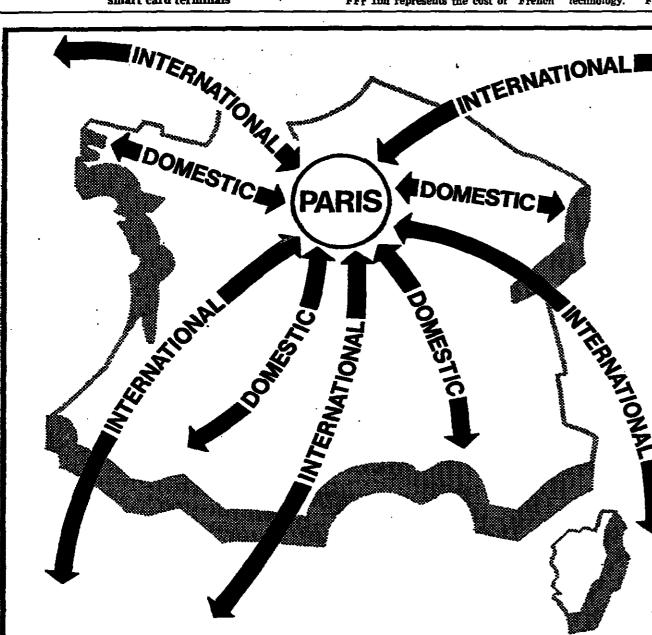
Big move towards cashless banking 18m cards at FFr 36 each as success in building up a strong compared with tariffs in the machines at end 1984 and only France's drive to popularise well as 200,000 "authentications of automatications of

> likely to be led by Credit machines, by contrast, has been Agricole. With 7.5m traditional tapering off with an estimated credit cards in circulation (to 8,700 units in place as of midcredit cards in circulation (to 8,700 units in place as of mid-Minitel-based services under be exchanged completely for 1985, against 7,200 at end 1984 which customers can interrogate and 5,000 at end 1983. Self-their accounts, make transfers service banking machines are and chevi the value of invest-now installed at a ratio of one ment portfolios. to every 6.500 inhabitants, a greater penetration than in the rest of Europe and one which bankers regard as approaching make up about 12 to 15 per cent a maximum.

> > Telecommunications as part of to come

banknote dispensers and telling have been installed, with over machines, by contrast, has been 100,000 used for financial ser-

a maximum, of Minitel users. But even Self-service banking terminals assuming a tenfold increase in installed in the home, by conthe number of financial service. trast, are clearly just taking users over the next two years, off. The move is being spear-home banking customers will headed by procressive installa-still total only around 1.5m at tion around the country of the end 1987, underlining that this Minitel terminals, financed by market will remain a rapid the Direction Generale des growth sector for many years



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Diary of a critic's arduous week

For the critic the trouble with television is that it never less up. What is more, there is an increasing number of matters to occupy his attention off screen. My week begins with the writing of this column on a Monday. After completing last week's column I began keeping a diary:

er 6 1985

MONDAY
At the ICA in London the
Arts Council shows the winners
in its first-ever "New Film and
Video Artists' Prizes " scheme:
a mixture of the pretentious MONDAY and the professional. Unfortu-nately the very idea is under-mined by the decision that the judging can only be done by a recently graduated student. If these films and videos are in-capable of communicating to anyone over 21 what on earth anyone over 21 what on earth is the value of them?

How odd that in one evening ITV should show one of the best programmes of the year promptly followed by one of the worst. Granada's World In the worst. Granada's World In Action special on the six men imprisoned for the Birmingham pub bombing is an outstanding example of what can be done with investigative journalism on television. On the basis of work carried out by Charles Tremayne, Chris Mullin and Eamon O'Connor, Producer Ian McBride builds up a devastating case for—at the very least—a retrial. Almost certainly the wrong men are in gaol (even the IRA says they did not do it and the IRA does not make a habit of disclaiming their convicted bombers) and



with the

Phil Silvers: left a priceless

being kept there, it seems, because the authorities need someone to take the blame. someone to take the blame.

Television is a desperately unwieldy tool for this sort of work: point a quartz-iodine sungun, a camera and a gun-mike at most people, even the innocent, and they dodge round the nearest corner. Yet by using every technique from dramatised reconstruction to clandestine sound reconstruction to

clandestine sound recordings in gaol, World In Action produces an immensely impressive document. It is appalling that Fleet Street has virtually abandoned this sort of investigation but heartening that television has taken it up. Encouraging, too, to find that ITV can put this sort of touchy material on screen when the BBC comes so unstuck with Real Lives.

Hollywood Wires which follows is the most meretricious . which and valgar programme for a long time, apparently made by people who believe a bright pink Rolls-Royce is the epitome of sophistication, for viewers who agree with them. The less said the better.

Review copies of three books arrive. The first is utilitarian, the third edition of Who's Who On Television (ITV Books/Michael Joseph £5.95). The first edition, price 4 shillings, iisted Simon Dee, Wilfred Pickles, and the year of Caroline Blakiston's birth. All these are absent from the new dition. So is BBC newsreader Julia Somerville, though ITN newsreader Pam Armstrong is in, and while Mel Smith is listed ("favourite place: bed") Griff Rhys Jones is not. The choice of "1,000 of the best known faces on British television" is pretty catholic, how-THESDAY

Glasgow Media Group in their "Bad News" books which accused television news of

being biased in favour of the status quo and against unions. This new book will be wel-comed by television news executives but, to those of us who always said the Glasgow group was more full of bias and special pleading than television news, it seems somewhat un-

necessary.
To BBC Television Centre in evening for a dinner thrown director-general Alasdair by director-general misses.

Milne to mark the retirement

Discholmer, one of of Gunnar Rugheimer, one of the great personalities of the corporation, who was for years chief film buyer; he captured Gone With The Wind and The Sound Of Music. Now he is going into cable programming on his own account, with Adam Singer, son of Aubrey. He gives an extraordinarily clever WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY
Weekly column appears. Day
of rest, Decide to relax by
watching videotapes of 'Allo
'Allo, Full House, Girla On Top,
Up The Elephant And Round
The Castle and Happy Families
for forthcoming column on
situation comedies. Turns out
to be hardest work of the week.
Happy Families obviously in
wrong batch of tapes: not a
comedy at all.
On BBC2 Brass Tacks tries
to establish whether the British
police are using new paramilitary tactics against crowds.
They show that the police
behaved appallingly at Manchester University in March,
but the broader question
remains in doubt. The
"analysis" of the 1968 Grosvenor Square demonstration with
former Chief Carstrable John

"analysis" of the 1968 Grosvenor Square demonstration with
former Chief Constable John
Alderson, which seeks to suggest how well-mannered the
police were in those days, is
utterly misleading since it
ignores those areas where the
police were methodically beating demonstrators to the
ground, kicking heads and so
on.

Channel 4 has made the Booker Prize its own, thanks largely to Melvyn Bragg. When you think of the disaster the BBC achieved two years ago when they drafted in Selena Scott, and then consider Hermione Lee's deft handling today of the live phone call to the winner in Salt Lake City ("Bloody hell," she said in her quaint artipodean way) you do begin to wonder about the BBC's supposedly special abili-

Saddest news of the week is the death of Phil Silvers, one of the few true masters of television, known the world over as "Bilko," the comiving master-sergeant from Fort Baxter. Silvers' early life in vaudeville gave him an understanding of the ordinary man which is in-valuable in television comedy: valuable in television comedy; in Britain Johnny Speight from London's East End has a similar understanding. Silvers added to that an instinctive knowledge of how to play to an audience via a television camera; a skill which is different from that of stage or chema comedy techniques and cinema comedy techniques, and seemingly far more rare. Lucille Ball and Eric Morecambe are the only two per-formers I have ever seen who came close to Silvers' mastery and both, I believe, learnt much from watching him, whether or not they realised it. The 143 episodes of Bilko are a priceless legacy to the world.

SATURDAY To be able to speak to camera unaffectedly about your enthu-slasm and hatreds, and to do so interestingly, is a flair almost as rare as Silvers': Jack Hargreaves has always had it (his fascinating rural series Out Of Town, now called Old Country, is screened at 6.00 on Mondays

to become a professional magnification. Without ever broaching intend to see that the rest of the beginnings of Northern the subject formally, this professional mental to see that the rest of the beginnings of Northern that the second and annothing the subject formally, this professional mental to see that the rest of the beginnings of Northern that the second and annothing the subject formally, this professional magnification. Sellowing that Leading the Department of the beginnings of Northern that the subject formally, this professional magnification and annothing the subject formally, this profession and annothing the subject formally, the subject formally the su



Bernard Levin-striding out in Hannibal's footsteps

police whipping demonstrators and jumping out of unmarked lorries to shoot them. But then it will become counter-produc-tive. Every ambitious television news team in the world will compete to get claudestine

is a collection of anecdotes from the early days of television, ranging from the way that Polly Elwes drove sheep off likley Moor into people's gardens so they could eat chrysanthemums for the Toright cameras.

The third—TV News: Whose Bias?, by Professor Martin Harrison (Policy Journals £12.50)—is a long and detailed refutation of the work of the Glasgow Media Group in their "Bad News" books which are subject formally subject and today on Channel 4 again—Bernard Levin proves that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the subject proves that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the subject proves that the still has it. Whether on tourism, wine, Don Carlos, that the subject proves that the subject proves that the subject proves that the subject has the

horrific scenes of South African and punching from the police) and puncting from the police; and de Gaulle's repeated "non." Robert Kce's script is lucid and literate, and Cate Haste's pro-duction admirably smooth. The sequence, in which film of a platform of speakers is frozen and everyone except Enoch Bowell is electronically Powell is electronically dimmed, typifies the attention which has been paid to detail.

Weekly column in morning.

> Bursaries to jazz musicians

The Arts Council has awarded nearly £18,000 in bursaries to 21 jazz musicians. The grants, from £400 to £1,350, go to enable projects including the percussionist Paul Hession's work with improvising musicians in Germany and Esmond

The Great White Hope/Tricycle

Michael Coveney

The Tricycle in Kilburn appears to be going for broke with this British première of Howard Sackler's 1968 Broadway hit about the first black heavyweight cham-pion Jack Johnson. A east of 27, an ambilious design, 18 scenes: a programme pole-mic claims that once the mic claims that once the is last seen bettered and end such things will not be seen recettack.

This may well be the seen that t

This may well be true. At the same time, Nicolas Kent's production is the sort of large-scale affair the fringe has studiously backed away from for years. This is Lyttelton time. and it is not the meanest of compliments to suggest that the Kilburn show compares more than favourably with the National's own boxing play extravaganza, Golden Boy.

Nor does Sackier (who died three years ago) wit put along-

side Odets. The James Earl Jones movie of his play was indeed a very fine one, but it is exhibitating to be reminded of the original's theatricality and eneralismanship. Johnson, here called Jefferson, is seen preparing for a crack at the title, but we only ever see him hit a punchbag. The social and racial punchoag. The social and factal assues in early 20th century Chicago are fanned to life by a white establishment who sense the danger of a black champion: his success, warns Ed Bishop's rubbernecking fixer, would be the biggest calamity since the San Francisco earthquake; and, anyway, what the hell is this country—Ethiopia? Sackler's use of direct address

and his definess in articulating Mark Heath as Trainer.

all sides of an argument, lend the play its spring and vitality. Jefferson's white girlimend (Jenny Quayle) is the lever used to slap a sexual offence-charge on him. A fugitive in Europe after jumping bail. Jefferson is finally trapped into facing the new white hope and

shaven-headed action man, seems to have acquired extra poundage and muscles as the smiling champ and conveys a lust for both boxing and life that for both boxing and liter that leaves no room for compromise. The play is a little too long and Mr Kent does not quite solve problems of pace and clarity in the second act travelogue section. But the central debate, one of undiminished urgency engages. diminished arrency, emerges loud and strong; to summarise crudely, how white must you become to survive as a black?

John Matshikiza spits out the non-integration line, scornfully disrupting a hot gospelling funeral, while Jefferson sucks lowest by appearing in an Uncle Tom act in a Budapest night-club. It is a measure of the play's richness that it deals in the sort of Faustian choices and temptations that bedevil all men of all colours. men of all colours.

Liz da Costa's design is efficient as well as ingenious, the musical direction of Terry Mortimer (everything from cake-walks to blues) well up to scratch. And an exceptionally fine company includes Earless for such outbursts, along with Bentley as Mother, Barry Jack-his sly deployment of asides son as Manager and the scraphic

Mathis der Maler/Zurich

Andrew Clark

It was Zurich which staged Helmut Drese, concentrated the premiere of Hindemith's the action front of stage on a Mathis der Maker in 1938 when raised platform. The virtue of Mathis der Maler in 1938 when the composer was persona non gruta in Nazi Germany. It was the young Ferdinand Leitner, an alumnus of Hindemith's musical theory classes at Berlin than inspired stagecraft. audible. Otherwise he contented himself with broad guidelineshonest workmanlike stuff rather The title role was sung by Gerd Feldhoff, a baritone much in the 1920s, who conducted the first German performances after the war. On the basis of senti-ment alone, then, there was He has a handsome stage some justification for inviting appearance but missed the Leitner to conduct this season's passion and broad humanity of Leitner to conduct this season's new production at Zurich. In the the character. There was little evidence of the ravage of time or experience. His voice has event, his sovereign control and reasoned exposition of a score warmth and breadth, but no substance outside the middle register. The ladies—Beatrice that is at best sombre and at worst depressing, made this production as near a triumph as the opera is likely to enjoy.

Mathis is the second of Hindemith's three "artist in society" Niehoff as Regina and Agnes Habereder as Ursula - were excellent. So too was Peter Straka, whose pure and forthoperas. Its unwavering, almost Straka, whose pure and forth-Presbyterian seriousness and the fact that its composer has been left stranded for so long very sympathetic peasant by the tides of fashion, have leader. given the opera little currency outside the symphony which Hindemith culled from it. The conduct

Like Wolfgang Sawallisch, to name just one other German conductor unjustly neglected in EMI recording by Kubelik, with Britain, Leitner is steeped in Fischer-Dieskau in the title German musical culture and at role, made a worthy attempt to his best in the theatre. His redress the balance. But unlike Cardillac which seems the unity and coherence in
tailor-made for the current
ENO repertory, Mathis bears stylistic sources and make
the imprint of the German sense of the uncompromising
opera that does not travel well.
Contrary to expectations,
Mathis does not come over as so well laden.

Nathis does not come over as so well laden. overlong in the theatre, at least Nothing was made to sound not in this production, which cut the fifth tableau scene be-

heavy or congested. Dramatic pace, rhythmic drive and pace, rhythine grive and breadth of phrasing were a delight, and the orchestra played superbly. With a read-ing of such calm assurance as a tween Ursula and the Cardinal, and was none the worst for it. The simplicity of the visual pre-sentation gave the plot a lean allegorical profile. Toni Businger's decor was confined guide, the case for interpreting Mathis as autobiographical opera—Hindemith pleading for artistic autonomy in times of to a series of primitive repre-sentational panels, with sentational panels, with artistic autonomy in times of costumes placing the action political and social turbulence firmly in the 16th century.

The stage director, Claus persuasively made.

Exhausting show of German art risen from the ashes of war

From a Londoner's viewpoint it would surely seem that Radxiwill is one who stayed, and he will be remembered abundance at the Royal Academy and its surrounding "Neue Sachlichkeit" exhibition Academy and its satellites that there can be none left in Germany. That the no trace of his former smoothnational galerie in Berlin can mount an exhibition, "1945-85: The Lament for Bremen is a Art in the German Federal Republic," consisting of some devastation comparable to Goya's Disasters of War.

It becomes clear that German artists, after a period of also that there is plenty more

The aim of the London exhibition is to demonstrate the continuity of German art throughout the 20th century, whereas in Berlin the emphasis is on how German art has arisen. Phoenix-like, from the ashes of the Second World War. when Hitler acceded to power in 1933 it was his declared intention to suppress all forms of avant-garde art, which culminated in the infamous "Degenerate Art" exhibition

underground. Franz at the Hayward in 1978. By 1946

artists, after a period of despair were determined to rejoin the mainstream of the avant-garde, and many paintings reflect the influence of the Ecole de Paris. The heroes of this period are Baumeister and Nay, although it must be ad-mitted that neither in London nor in Berlin does the heart leap up. The towering shadow is Picasso, and echoes, not to

morphic shapes suggesting defensiveness and aggression. Cheerfulness breaks out in the miserably represented at the RA but here in great-splendour. The aggression is still there — nails are omnipresent in Uecker's pieces, but the abstract patterns he creates with them

to it in Berlin look like the a new intensity could be ex-aftermath of a chaotic party, pressed. The horror of man's with Joseph Beuys' hat carefully abandoned on top of a legless grand plane. Beuys' importance as a teacher is acknowledged by his huge installation of blackboards and easels in the centre room, although again

Mary Rose Beaumont looks at a Berlin exhibition of painting and sculpture since 1945

in which the interplay of light play.

and movement is mesmeric; an The return to figuration had and movement is mesmeric; an installation of columns in re-flective materials lit from below

are extraordinarily beautiful, it rather looks as if the boys Heinz Mack shows kinetic pieces and girls have crept away to

begun somewhat tentatively in the 1960s with artists looking at Dubuffet on one side and Pop

pressed. The horror of man's inhumanity to man was once again a burning subject. The presence of the Wall can never be forgotten. His most recent piece, Memorial to an unknown East German Soldier, 1984, is impressive and moving: it consists simply of rough-hewn columns of wood and bronze mounting guard round an allar/ table bearing a fallen column

central theme of his art that

Penck's sculpture is in the main hall, surrounded by the current heavyweights of German art—Lilpertz, Baselitz, Kiefer and Immendorf. Lüpertz continues his satires on German militarism. Baselitz's reversal of the figure still causes dis-quiet—while his Eagle of 1972 is quite acceptable upside down, the Christ currying the Cross, 1984, in Neapolitan ice-cream colours, is less so.

Cafe Deutschland, pursues his haunting allegory of life on the edge, a jumble of images which includes swastikas and Russian soldiers, as well as a wildly gyrating couple and two painters painting (Immendorf and Penck).

The young entry is shown upstairs on the spacious ground floor level, with one or two older artists to keep them in their place. The most striking quality in the work of Fetting, Middendorf and Salome is energy, plus a very seductive application of paint in bold, even garish, colours. These artists would have added a note of galety to the R.A.

Full advantage has been taken of the fact that the Nationalgalerie, designed by Mles van den Robe, is built on a intention to suppress all forms of avant-garde art, which culminated in the "Degenerate Art" exhibition in 1987.

As a result many artists left the country and those who remained had either to conform intention to suppress all forms asy pastiches, are manifold. There are also cross-currents, is a spellbinder. There are also cross-currents, is a spellbinder. The other group besides Zero which has roots in Disseldorf, at the other and photo-colours, is less so. The other group besides Zero which has roots in Disseldorf, in the middle, which has roots in Disseldorf, in the middle, which has roots in Disseldorf in the other and photo-realism in the middle, which has roots in Disseldorf in the other and photo-realism in the middle, which has roots in Disseldorf in the middle, which has roots in Disseldorf in the middle, which has roots in Disseldorf in the other and photo-realism in the middle, which has roots in Disseldorf in the other and photo-realism in the middle, which has roots in Dissellorf in the other and photo-realism in the middle, which has roots in Dissellorf in the other and photo-realism in the middle, which has roots in Dissellorf in the other and photo-realism

Arts Guide

Music/Monday. Opers and Ballet/Tuesday. Theatre/Wednes-day. Exhibitions/Thursday. A selective guide to all the Arts ap-

Nov 1-7

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FINANCIAL TIMES 11 Pathwaters by 1985

Theatre

NEW YORK

As Is (Lyceum): The first play about AIDS makes gestures toward the whole community the disease affects and focuses effectively on the victim and his protective lover; but this Circle Rep production also has distracting artistic touches to paich over the play's lack of development once the disease is diagnosed. (239 6200).

Fig. Not Rappapert (American Place): A better title might have been Mensch on a Bench for Herb Gardner's touching, funny and invigorating play about two oldsters embodied in Judd Hirsch and Cleavon Little who almost conquer the world when they think they are just bickering with each other. (869 4731).

Cats (Winter Garden): Still a sellout, Trevor Num's production of T. S.

Cais (Winter Garden): Still a sellout,
Trevor Num's production of T. S.
Eliot's children's poetry set to trendy music is visually startling and
choreographically feline, but classic
only in the sense of a rather staid
and overblown idea of theatricality.
(229 8082).

(Maiestic): An immuniest

(239 6262).

42nd Street (Majestic): An immodest celebration of the beyday of Broadway in the '30s incorporates gems from the original film like Shuffle-Off To Buffalo with the appropriately brash and leggy hoofing by a large chorus line. (977 9020).

Brighton Beach Memotrs. (46th St): The first instalment of Neil Simon's mix of memories and jokes focuses.

The first instalment of Neil Simon's mix of memories and jokes focuses on a Depression era Jewish household where young Engene falls awkwardly in love with his cousin. (221 1211).

A Chorus Line (Shubert): The longest-running musical ever in America

has not only supported Joseph Papp's Public Theater for eight years but also updated the musical genre with its backstage story in which the songs are used as audi-tions rather than emotions.

(239 6200).

Semilary in the Park with George
(Booth): Inspired by the Seurat
painting, Stephen Sondheim fashions a musical with dots and dashes of song that end too soon but work well with Tony Straiges's pretty set and James Lapine's book which changes gears in the second act. (2396262).

(239 6262).

Is Cage any Folles (Palace): With some tuneful Jerry Herman songs, Harvey Fierstein's adaptation of the French film manages, barely, to capture the feel of the sweet and hilarious original between high-licking and gaudy chorus numbers. (157 2625).

devergence in the process (Goodman): The Gogol wit directed against bu-reascracy has enjoyed a sympathet-ic hearing in America the latest conthe hearing in America we have tour-ribution being this season-opener directed by Frank Galati with Keth Reddin starring with I. M. Hobson. Ends Nov 10.(4433810).

WASHINGTON

The Good Person of Szechwan (Arena): Garland Wright directs Ralph Manheim's translation of the Brecht parable in this season opener for an standing repertory company. outstanding repertury company. (488 3300). (unit of Moute Cristo (Eisenhower): The second production of Peter Sel-lars' new American National Thea-tre company is the James O'Neill

Pravda (Olivier): Entertaining epic new play by David Hare and How-ard Brenton for the National Theaard Brenton for the National Thea-tre in which an unscrupulous South African magnate acquires Britain's most prestigious newspaper. A Jon-sonian satire on the grand scale with an irresistible performance by Anthony Hopkins as the colonial who penetrates the Establishment while a pation dithers (029252) while a nation dithers. (928 2252). washing the Sileace (Mermaid): An-other RSC transfer, of Stephen Poli-akoff's account of his family's emigration from post-Revolutionary Russia, Alan Howard succeeding Daniel Massey alongside Jenny Aguttar. Ingeniously set in an Impe rial railway carriage. (230 5568).

Geys and Dolls (Prince of Wales): The
1982 National Theatre production
has arrived in the West End, if any nas arrived in the West End, if anything improved by the new casting of Lahu as Miss Adelaide and the notably well sung black Sky Masterson of Clarke Peters. Richard Syre's production and John Guntar's affectionately lavish designs complement this most joyful and literate of musicals, a fitting tribute to the recently deceased co-librettist Abe Burrows (3308881).

Burrows (930 8861).
Torch Song Trilogy (Albery): Antony
Sher plays Harvey Fierstein's fourhour triptych of the life and loves of and depend of the me and loves of a drag queen fighting for emotional and domestic stability. Truthful playing has the effect of cruelly ex-posing Fierstein's tackly uneven writing. (838,3378). heg (Lyric): Unconvincing stage reviv-

al of Lerner and Loewe's film foi-

rising inimitably above the materirising immutately above the material, Jean-Pierre Aumont and Sian Phillips leading more conventional support. John Dexter directs, Jocelyn Herbert designs. (437 3886).

The Seaguill (Queens): Last chance to catch this superb revival by Charles Sturridge in which Vanessa Redgrave and Jonathan Pryce provide the most exciting acting on the London stage. (734 1166). Jumpers (Aldwych): Confident almost sober revival of Tom Stoppard's glit-

tering comedy of love, murder and linguistic mayhem among the logi-cal positivists, with Paul Eddington a more earthbound George Moore II than was Michael Hordern, Felicity Kendal delightful as his retired mu-sical comedy wife. Peter Wood di-rects. (\$356404, credit cards Sweet Bird of Youth (Haymarket):

Sweet Hira of Youth (Haymarker, Lauren Becall elegantly decadent as Tennessee Williams's doomed movie queen. Harold Pinter's direction and Eleen Diss's evocative designs contradict the play's lopsided reputation and place the central tussie between the star and her gigolo (Michael Beck) against a detailed canves of small fown Southern vengefulness by the sea (930 9832). fulness by the sea (930 9832).

Noises Off (Savoy): The funniest play for years in London, now with an improved third act. Michael Blake-more's brilliant direction of backstage shenanigans on tour with a third-rate farce is a key factor.

Startight Express (Apollo Victoria): Andrew Lloyd Webber's rollerskat-ing folly has 10 minutes of Spielberg

Dank of Scotland Money Market Cheang Account

and a dwindling reliance on indiscriminate rushing around. Disneyland, Star Wars and Cats are all influences. Pastiche score nods towards rock, country and hot gospel. No child is known to have asked for his money back, (834 6184).

42nd Street (Drury Lene): No British equivalent has been found for New York's Jerry Orbach, but David Merrick's tap dancing extravaganza has been rapturously received. Ameri-can Clare Leach is a real find as Peggy Sawyer, and Margaret Courtenay has a field day (836 8108). Me and My Girl (Adelphi): Sleek, effi-cient and enjoyable revival of Brit-ain's biggest war-time musical hit with Robert Lindsay in the Lupino Lane role emerging as the best new musical star since Michael Craw-fond feer reit.

ford. (836 7611). Bernum (Victoria Palace): Michael Crawford returns to London with his breathtaking performance as the circus impressio, adding one or two new tricks in a likeable meringue of a musical, (8341317, credit

cards 8284735).

Phedra (Aldwych): Welcome return of last year's Philip Prowse produc-tion, beautifully costumed, with a brave attempt at the Racinian metre in Robert David MacDonald's translation. Glenda Jackson superb in a strong cast also boasting Georgina Hale, Joyce Redman, Gerard Mur-phy and Robert Edison (8366404).

NETHERLANDS

limegen, Schouwburg, Lamda Thea-tre from London with Thornton Wilder's Skin of our teeth. (Thur). (221100).

Museums/Antony Thorncroft

spent.

cause, constantly paints a beguing picture of the museum in the future, calering for the convenience of the public, and a pleasure rather than an academic duty to visit. But the V & A has yet to draw the link between its £2 suggested entrance fee and the

suggested entrance see and the glories to come.

This is partly because, in his 10 years there Sir Roy has successfully transformed the initial appearance of the museum. The entrance hall, bedeated with flowers (thanks to opening to a very grand mansion, and pokiness and squalor have been banished to the

visitors stray.

Sir Roy has already succeeded In Trusthouse Forte is giving £200,000 for the new medieval

£5m towards the essential mainof more towards an eventual help to encourage the others—and other museums, as to the institutions such as the British V&A.

Strategy failings at V & A

The Victoria & Albert
Museum which have shown no
Museum is in danger of losing
the propaganda war over its
introduction this week of a
introduction this week of a
voluntary admission payment
V & A's current strategy is any
six Rev Strang with all the
clear sign where the public's Sir Roy Strong, with all the clear sign where the public's enthusiasm of a convert to the cause, constantly paints a first tranche is earnarked for first tranche is earnarked for the cause. signs—for improving the infor-mation in the museum so the public know what is where. But the museum should give the payers a better idea of how

It is surprising that the openis not a greater priority: per-haps the V & A does not want to offer hostages to fortune over the amount of cash it will raise from its venture. Opening on decked with flowers (thanks to Friday would be costly and a £15,000 a year from an anony very cautious estimate for the mous sponsor), looks like the extra income from charges is £500,000 a year-which in theory suggests only 250,000 have been banished to the full paying visitors as against upper reachers where few the 1.7m people attending last

In persuading companies to pay. should raise £1m from the pub-Trusthouse Forte is giving lic. By spending some of the cash on an advertising campaign gallery, and an as yet undisthe drop in attendances should closed backer is taking care of be restricted to 20 per cent. By the Japanese gallery, the first 1987 the fuss should be forgotten of its kind in the UK. and visitors -half of whom are The Government has also tourists in the summer months been persuaded to caugh up—should rise.

-should rise.
After the first day's hi-jinks, tenance work, with the promise which actually boosted attendances over the average bionbill of £26m. Could it be that day although revenue only in return for this generosity amounted to 20p a head, the the chairman of the trustees, museum yesterday returned to Lord Carrington, and Sir Roy its stately calm. The next few have been encouraged to undermonths will be of as much take some complementary self-

GDP Average Annual Growth Rate

FINANCIAL TIMES

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Wednesday November 6 1985

G5 deal needs more zip

ministers and central bank governors from the Group of Five leading industrialised countries must have got thoroughly fed up with hearing this question, ever since the announcement September that the G5 had agreed on co-ordinated intervention to push the dollar down-wards on the foreign exchanges. wards on the foreign exchanges.
Despite the obvious unlikelihood that finance ministers would wish to share their "secrets" with the general public, the markets have found it hard to resist the steady stream of rumours about the steady ward have training that went on real horse-trading that went on at the G5 meeting in New York.

at the G5 meeting in New York.

The latest revelation, partly suggested by a firm denial of any change in German monetary policy from Mr Karl Otto Poebl, the president of the Bundesbank, is that the G5 agreement wasn't that at all. It was really a deal between the "Group of Two"—the US and Japan: the Federal Reserve Board and the Bank of Japan would push the dollar-yen exchange rate down in Y200 or exchange rate down in Y200 or even lower. Meanwhile. Europe's finance ministers would remain on the sidelines, which finds itself in U.S. perhaps making the odd market congressmen's protectionist firms. sortie to confuse the ing line. speculators, but basically carrying on with business as before. There may well be some truth in this interpretation of the Ga agreement-a statement which agreement—a statement which is not based on any exciting conspiracy theory or leaked agenda from the G5 meeting, but from a more mudane observation. The G5 agreement probably amounts to less—not more—than meets the eye.

The fact is that there is still precious little recognition in any of the major industrialised countries the US and Japan included, that domestic policies, as well as international ones, must change if balance is to be restored to the global economy.
The G5 meeting may have marked a turning point in the philosophical world view of the American and British treasuries, which were both forced to eat a lot of words about the futility of intervention and even the logical incoherence of the very concept of "overvaluation" in freely competitive currency

Economic policies, however, are ultimately determined not by economists, but by politicians. And even if Mr Nigel Lawson, the British Chancellor, has gradually been persuaded of the benefits of currency stabi-lity, while Mr Beryl Sprinkel, the devoutly free-market US

of President Reagan. Mrs
Thatcher or Mr Helmut Kohl.
This means in practice that
there was little chance of the
G5 finance ministers reaching
an agreement about anything
beyond the technicalities of intervention policy for the simple reason that the key decisions on taxes and public spending had been ruled out of bounds by their political bosses. bounds by their political bosses, the heads of government of the industrialised world. This does not necessarily imply, as is sometimes held in the markets, that the G5's currency efforts are ultimately doomed to failure.

Intervention alone can have a major psychological effect and if it is supported by a "non-sterilizing" monetary policy, it amounts, by any definition, to a change in the economic fundamentals. In the past few weeks the Japanese government has shown that it, at least is prepared to accept the monetary changes required by the G5 intervention agreement. Mr Poehl's statement on Monday implied that Germany was not prepared to change its monetary

What all this indicates, how ever, is not that the G5 agreement is being faithfully observed by the Japanese and ignored by the Germans. Rather it suggests that the agreement needs to be substantially expanded. What Germany needs is not a monetary tightening, as part of aco-ordinated intervention against the dollar, but a fiscal relaxation, as part of a coordinated switch in fiscal policies, involving America, Europe and Japan. Germany's current account surplus, at roughly 2 per cent of GDP, is clearly excessive by any historical standards, even if it pales besides Japan's surplus of 3.5 per cent of GDP. Taking Europe as a whole, the current account surplus of \$41bn projected for next year by the IMF should be viewed as a serious global imbalance, on a scale comparable to Japan's projected surplus of \$57bn. In the present fragile state of

the world economy, it would be wrongheaded for Europe to tighten its monetary policies in an attempt to help the dollar downwards. But this is not an argument against co-ordinated intervention; it is an argument for bringing fiscal policies, Africa and the IMF

The patient is ready for a new prescription

By Patti Waldmeir

bilharzia or broken legs. They will always give you quinine."
President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia's wry commentary on the methods of an organisation which is widely viewed in Africa as a peculiar amalgam of stern physician, harsh probation officer and neo-colonialist exploiter must have raised a chuckle from many a beleaguered African central bank governor or sober Finance Minister—after a quick glance down the corridor to ensure that the resident IMF representative was not within earshot.

tative was not within earshot.

For throughout most of black Africa, "IMF" is a household name. While the legendary "market mammies" of Accra (their rich folds of flesh often concealing vast sums of money gained through trading), or the pidgin-speaking taxi drivers of Lagos may not be able to quote its full name, they are in no doubt as to what these three doubt as to what these three initials stand for—austerity.

The Fund's presence in Africa as a major financier, rare up until the late 1970s, has since grown to the point where 27 countries out of 50-odd in sub-Saharan Africa have had to turn to it for balance of payments support in the past five years. Overall, the Fund extended some SDR 8.53bn (£6,29bn) in loans to the region between 1980 and 1984—loans which are now falling due and are in some cases (notably Zambia and Sudan), already overdue.

Those countries worst hit by Africa's current economic crisis have scarcely any hope of repaying these debts in the next deade without borrowing the money to do so from other official sources. For them, Fund lending has only increased their already intolerable burden

of short-term debt.
The success of failure of the IMF's austerity prescription for Africa—vigorously debated for some years in the Continent's press, its bars and its diplomatic cocktail parties—now appears to have become a major source of concern among the Fund's chief Western backers as well.

With vast areas of the con-

tinent sunk in an economic crisis of unprecedented depth the IMF's role in Africa has come under charp scrutiny.

The recent annual meetings of the IMF and World Bank in Seoul brought this issue into the international spotlight. The

whether you are sufferong economic malaria,
is or broken legs. They
lways give you quinine."
it ways give you?

It wa inadequate to deal with the iong-term structural imbalances

which characterise most of Africa's economic crises. The IMF's stock argument that the "mixed performance" of its policies in Africa is the result of poor implementation by recipient governments—
crudely put, that failure is the result of too little IMF medicine, not too much—
would appear to have lost some credibility.

The experiences of three countries widely viewed as major test cases for the Fund in Africa—Zaire, Ghana and Zambia—cannot have been far from the minds of those Western bureaucrats who argued for a new approach in Seoul. They are among the continent's worst economic dis-aster stories—but also among those countries which have gone furthest along the road to IMF-inspired economic reform. The economic histories of the

three provide an inventory of

the mistakes and mistortunes

which have precipitated Africa's

economic and political crisis. The three countries enjoy vastly different levels of natural and created wealth. political backgrounds and political problems which have little in common. What they share (apart from the resident IMF representative down the corridor) is a degree of desperation which has left them little option but to make a serious and sustained effort to administer

the IMF's medicine. Conclusions about the impact of IMF policies in these countries are extraordinarily difficult to draw, largely because of what the IMF drily terms "unforeseen developments." Drought in Ghana, comer price movements in copper price movements in Zambia and donor reticence in Zaire make it difficult to apportion either praise or blame with any degree of

Zaire is perhaps the clearest example in Africa of a country which has suffered the painful contraction of demand, and living standards, sought by the Fund — but has reaped only a fraction of the promised

According to a recent IMF study of adjustment pro-grammes in Africa, prepared the devoutly free-market US under-secretary for monetary affairs, has been quietly removed from the treasury, there has been little change in basic political convictions at the level political convictions at the level political convictions at the level of the devoutly free-market US for bringing fiscal politics, argument to the arena of international spotlight. The by a former director of the result was broad agreement to Fund's African department. Justin Zuiu: "Restoring financial stability can generate that unless there is a major increase soon in muti- and bi- department. Japan and even Britain clearly has been little change in basic political convictions at the level discussion.

The West, and particularly foreign creditors and donors of the former director of the Fund's African department. Justin Zuiu: "Restoring financial stability can generate confidence that will encourage soon in muti- and bi- department. Justin Zuiu: "Restoring financial stability can generate confidence that will encourage at the most severe in Africa including the introduction of a foreign exchange are new Third World debt initiative including plans financial stability can generate confidence that will encourage at a new foreign investment, Zaire's will to stick to its reforming policies. The main aim of the auction is to establish a more realistic get out of hand unless exports whether, despite all the hard
The West, and particularly foreign creditors and donors of the fund's African department. Justin Zuiu: "Restoring financial stability can generate confidence that will encourage and new foreign investment, Zaire's will to stick to its reforming policies. The main aim of the auction is to establish a more realistic exchange rate for the Kwacha, in order to boost non-traditional show more resilience.

The West, and particularly foreign creditors and donors whether, despite all the hard
The west are a major financial stability can generate that unless there is a major financial stability can generate that unless there is a majo

Since late 1982, the country has registered impressive successes with its economic reform programme and earned glowing endorsements from the West. Expenditure control and improved revenue collection have restored public finances to their senses, with the budget deficit falling to 3.4 per cent of GDP in 1984 from 10.5 per cent two years earlier. Inflation has been cut to around 20 per cent from over 100 per cent in 1933. The distortions of a thriving currency black market have been sixtually wind set virtually wiped out through de-valuation and the subsequent floating of the Zaire currency and the Bank of Zaire has scrupulously met repayments on the country's rescheduled exter-nal debt (\$4.4bm at the end of last year).

But the rise in private capital and donor inflows which Zaire was led to expect as a reward for three years of impeccable financial behaviour have been tortuously slow to materialise. In 1984, Zaire repaid some

COCOA

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neighbour, Zambia, the Fund's short-term horizon is completely

dwarfed by the magnitude of the country's economic problems

Comments the World Bank in a remarkably candid passage about Zambia from its 1985 annual report: "In retrospect

it must be admitted that

\$191.5m more to medium and long-term creditors than it received in new funds. And despite praise for its programme from Western bilateral donors, new aid disbursements from these sources have lagged well behind Zaire's repayments to them of principal and interest The Government of President

both the acuteness and duration of the decline in copper prices were grossly underestimated by all parties: as a result, the scope and character of the policy and institutional reforms that were set in motion were never commensurate with the gravity of

anount Seese Seko can scarcely escape all the blame for this outcome, say donor officials in Kinshasa.

But there can be little doubt that unless there is a major increase soon in muti- and bilateral aid and new foreign investment, Zaire's will to stick to its reforming policials.

Consequently, the IMF pressured Zambia for more radical reforms President Kaunda reaccordingly (with \$450m in accordingly (with \$450m in 1985 alone).

Where the IMF's test cases in Africa little appreciation.

The West would do well to accordingly (with \$450m in 1985 alone).

Nonetheless, the short-to medium-term remains worrying.

Africa including the introduction of a foreign exchange arrows:

They are risks of which African officials contend, the IMF's test cases in Africa little appreciation.

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Solution of the World Bank's third medium-term remains worrying.

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Solution Africa including the introduction of a foreign exchange earness to boost coca and growing number of African exchange earness to be a foreign exchange earness to be a foreign exchange earness to be a foreign exchange of the World Bank's third exchange in the look again at the conclusion of th

exports (in the face of a pro-jected sharp decline in pro-duction of copper, the main export earner) and attract new onions cut into quarters to match the purchasing power of shantytown dwellers), the basis has yet been laid for long-term foreign investment.

But even the most optimistic growth.
In the case of Zaire's southern

Zambia

analysts say is is difficult to be sanguine about the economy's prospects. They do not expect non-traditional exports to begin to take up the slack from lost copper revenues for several years to come.

Foreign investors will continue to be deterred by Zambia's failure to clear a conmercial arrears pipeline estimated at \$700m (including interest due) — and Zambia's \$700m debt to the IMF (excluding interest) is a major burden. Zambia is currently about \$75m

Of the three, Ghana is most frequently cited by the international institutions, and by Western bi-lateral donors, as a clear-cut success story. The World Bank's 1955 annual report singles Ghana out for special praise, calling its economic performance over the past year, when GDP grew by the balancy of payments. Somethed their inflation target and only a third attained targets relating to the current account of the balancy of payments. Nonetheless, most Africangular treatment of the balancy of payments. per cent in real terms, remarkable."

economy—Fit-Lt Jerry Rawlings inherited a nation hurtling towards economic collapse when he took power in a December 1981 military coup—is theresult of IMF-backed reforms, and to what extent the credit lies with the return of normal weather after a devastating drought. Western donors are excited

about Ghana. Many see it as the "most likely to succeed" of all

report, debt service due in 1985 amounts to \$423m, or 63 per amounts to \$422m, or 63 per cent of export earnings as projected in the 1985 budget. And from the end of this year, net flows from the IMF turn negative, making it likely that the country will be forced to continue rolling over agreements with the Fund despite a doinestic political atmosphere which is increasingly bestid to which is increasingly bostile to

Zaire

which is increasingly hostile to its dictates.

These three countries give a flavour of the IMF's record in Africa, a record which is catalogued in Justin Zulo's recent paper on adjustment programmes on the continent. The conclusions of the paper must give both African and Western policy-makers pause: in the period studied (1980-81), only one-lith of countries reached the programme's target on economic growth. Half

Nonetheless, most Africa-watchers agree that govern-ments on the Continent are, on the whole, showing a new commitment to reform. But What is not clear is the commitment to reform. But extent to which the striking they expect greater donor improvement in the Ghanatan backing if they are to survice economy—Fit-Lt Jerry Rawlings the political risks involved: the risk of postponing, seemingly indefinitely desperately-needed investments in social infrastruc-ture, the risk of constraining demand to the point where only a quarter of an onion is affordable: the risk of sudden retrenchment in countries with no system of social security. They are risks of which African

Rearguard of Sabbatarianism

EVEN before it is formally not rule out the possibility that announced in the Queen's government demand manage-speech today, the Government's ment has a role to play, as government trading seems to be aroustial trading seems to be aroustial trading agreests. It is certainly a great that are the truth here. ing more opposition than anything else the Government ever, than the idea that the Govproposes. It is strange and sad
that such passions should still level of trade, which can subfocus on this hoary old issue, sequently only be shared out. If and especially surprising that a that were the case, the shop-number of Tory MPs seem to workers could logically camhave joined the old coalition of paign for a four-day week. Con-Sabbatarians and trade union-ists. Mrs Thatcher must some-times wonder how far she has vote for this lump-of-trade really changed attitudes in the fallacy.

tions, has led the way to greater trading freedom. The rest of us may respect their self-deny-ing virtues, and they will clearly not be thronging the safely be left to the market. shops on Sundays; but they have no more right to impose their views on the country than, say, the vegetarians, another austere and respectable minority.

There is also a strong social argument for Sunday opening. In all the industrial economies, but most of all in the UK recent years have seen a rapid and welcome growth in jobs and

Philosophy

The main objections, how-The main objections, however, rest not on good fundamentalist religion, but on bad economics. It is variously argued that Sunday opening will lead to the exploitation of workers, that it will simply divert trade which cannot afford staff for Sunday opening. and that it will raise prices. The mothing compels stores to open. divert trade which cannot afterd might even create new leisure staff for Sunday opening, and that it will raise prices. The truth is that Sunday opening will in no way affect the bargaining strength of shopworkers. It will certainly create employment, and almost certainly prices. The Bill will be welcome, then but where is its comment, and almost certainly prices.

fundamental to the philosophy of the present Government, which starts from the fact that the major engine of economic growth throughout the ages has been the creation and exploitation of trading opportunities. This may not be the whole truth; a belief in trading does despite evidence from Puritan despite

really changed attitudes in the coductry when her own party is still wobbly on the merits of a market economy.

The Sabbatarians can surely swing few votes, when even Scotland, with its Puritan traditions has led the way to greater their capital more carried. an opportunity to turn over their capital more quickly. Customers may even prefer expensive Sunday butter to dry bread. It is a choice that can

opportunities for women— which is one reason why un-employment among men remains so distressingly high. It is quite illogical to have shops create extra trade, too.

This last point is absolutely fundamental to the philosophy despite evidence from Puritan

score? He has attended all the im-

What's the

portant Whitehall meetings over public spending this autumn. He says nothing. He offers no advice. And, apart from the occasional yawn, grin, or gasp of horror, he takes no noticeable part in the proceedings. He is The Scorekeeper. This year the Treasury has chosen an assistant secretary, Richard Gray, for this silent service.

As the spending ministers and the Treasury ministers in-dulge in horse-trading and bargaining his job is to note down the series of claims, counterclaims, offers, and withdrawals, in the labyrinth of negotiations. At the end of each day he reports back to Great George Street so that the Treasury always knows where it has won,

lost or drawn.
Gray could probably fill a

Gray could probably fill a book by now on ministerial tricks, trials and tribulations. But true to the form, he has observed his vows of silence monastically.

Once the final details of the 1986-87 public expenditure have been agreed by tomorrow's Cabinet meeting he will leave the political battlefield and return to the anonymity of one of the world's most secretive treasury buildings. tive treasury buildings.

On the ball

As keen snooker players, Terry Foster and Glyn Ineson were sometimes put out when they arrived at their club in Moriey, Yorkshire, to find that the pre-vious players had not put the protective dust-sheet over the

table.

When the two—friends since schooldays—were paid off from their jobs a year ago they started making a spring-loaded

started making a spring-loaded table cover.

Their enterprise brought them a £2.000 cheque yesterday and the first Wira Technology Group Initiative Award founded by the Leeds-based research group for bright ideas in the scallen industry. in the woollen industry.

The baize on a snooker table costs up to £500. Ineson says

Men and Matters

Defensive gesture An offshore millstone that has hung round the British taxpayer's neck for more than a century will be removed if a plan amounced by Guernsey to take over the upkeep of the half-mile long Alderney breakwater goes ahead.

Guernsey specifically excluded the breakwater when it took over responsibility for Alderney's finances after World War Two. Now, faced with a request to contribute to Britain's

quest to contribute to Britain's defence bill, the island sees a way of killing two birds with one stone — fulfilling its patriotic duty while ending a

potential source of friction with Whitehall. Work on the breakwater started in the 1840s as part of an abortive Admiralty scheme to create a huge naval harbour in Aldnerey to counter the base

built by the French at Cherbourg. By 1864 well over £1m had been spent on the great work, in deep and stormy waters. Since then it has been damaged by Channel gales almost every winter.
The Department of the

the Department of the Environment now employs a team endlessly repairing the white elephant at a cost of some £500,000 a year. The Channel Islanders have always taken the robust view that as the British government put up the breakwater it should pay for it . . .

Time-piece

Regular rail travellers may have been surprised to learn, in a report from the independent transport watchdog com
A special award for smaller charities went to Centre Thirty-Three, a youth counselling service in Cambridge run by some dent transport watchdog com
30 people on an income of

that their Baizegard cover will lengthen the life of a table by at least a quarter. "At £130 My man on the Paddington the cover will pay for itself in a year." ages it.
Trains which are running

trains which are running behind time are now "retimed"—so that when the measuring comes to be done, the original train no longer exists and therefore cannot be late. Simple when you know how

Charity accounts

With more than £900m a year now being given to charities in Britain, the standard of their reports and accounts has become a matter of some import

The Accounting Standards Committee is due to publish its draft guidelines next week— but for the past three years Accountancy magazine, the Charities Aid Foundation and the Voluntary Movement Group have been encouraging improve-ments by sponsoring awards for the best annual reports.

This year's top prize of £1,000 was presented yesterday to the British Heart Foundation which, with an income of around £12m last year, funds some two dozen research units in universities and hospitals. Its report, produced by Claire Marley and Burnett Associates, strikingly illustrates the Foundation's work with the case his-tories of heart disease victims,

pictured on the cover as "Five Who Survived—Living Proof that Research Saves Lives."
The £1,000 will go to St George's Hospital, London, to belp pay for a study into why some people have heart attacks without previous warning.

A special award for smaller 30 people on an income of

£19,000 a year. Their home-produced report and accounts even includes several poems about their work.

Two sides

There are two contrasting references to Martin Abramson. chairman of Ronald Martin, the office equipment and stationery group, in the papers associated with the company's proposed USM flotation.

A pen portrait, in a leaflet about the activities of a sub-sidiary, RMS International, says Abramson "is known through-out Europe, America and the Far East for his business integrity and has an unim-peachable record of straight dealing" dealing."

On page 35 of the placing document, it states that "in March, 1982, the Crown prosecuted the chairman of the company who pleaded guilty in company who pleaded guilty in the magistrates' court to a charge of forgery and deception and received concurrent suspended sentences of one month and three months respectively."

The charges related to the practice of obtaining typewriters from distributors at discounts wider than those normally available by ordering them in the names of, certain big customers.

Abramson says that his com-

Abramson says that his com-pany was doing quite openly just what many others in the business were doing; that it stopped the practice before the court case; and that it refunded the £3,706 it had obtained in extra discounts.

Qui so. But "unimpeachable

Face value

A bit of shrewd salesmanship was noted in a London street market yesterday. Beneath a sign proclaiming "Look young —Feel young," were jars of rejuvenating cream.
"Will it really do that for me?" asked an elderly woman.
The stallholder turned to a
young girl at his side and said:
"Give the lady a large jar,
mother."

Observer



SOME PEOPLE WILL NEVER HEAR OF ASTON TECHNOLOGY

The "I've never tried it but don't like it" mentality strikes at the very heart of modern technology.

And Aston Technology in particular. Just how does a young, energetic and soundly financed British

company get its name across? Does it boast about System Builder, the most powerful fourth generation applications generator?

Does it politely point to the Crystal multi-user business micro range with an extensive library of applications software and full hardware and software support?

Or does it merely mention its reputation as PICK specialists? And hint at its impartiality by reminding you that it also offers UNIX V and BOS?

A relephone call to 021-359 4861 might be all it takes, But no matter how convincing our argument is, some people will always turn us down flat.

PICK Operating assets I Mad 1 h. A secretary

UNIX C (Uniplies +) TM of Bell Laboratoria - No. 1 M of ROS Section and



RICHARD DUNN, 41-year-old managing director of Thames Television, sums up the recent history of the largest ITV company with feeling: "It's been one hell of a year. I'll be glad when it's Christmas."

ber 6 1985

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Behind his desk a cartoon shows an upside down television picture on a domestic set—a trophy from the strike-breaking management service put out by the company a year ago.

The strike, during which management demonstrated clearly that it could get the picture the right way up with-out the technical unions. ushered in a year of headlines

Within 12 months, apart from the confrontation with the unions, there has been:

The Dallas affair—the "poaching" of the oil industry drama from the BBC. The unilateral acquisition was "an act of almost reckless misjudgment," according to Wheel Dallas cording to Mr Hugh Dundas, the Thames chairman, and one which he believes has caused deep division in what had been a united and happy

company.

Thames declared a loss of f4.8m on its UK television operations in the year to March and was totally dependent on a £13.8m contribution from overseas sales for its ts.7m profit on a turnover sellers.

of £167.9m.

The pressure is on for a

The company lost not only its managing director Bryan Cowgill, who resigned over the Dalals affair, but also a finance and sales director Central and Television South continued to eat into Thames' share of national advertising revenue which showed an un-

expectedly sharp decline and has been reversed only in the last three months. To cap it all came last month's bid from Carlton Communications, a television facilities and advertising pro-

they wanted to accept Carlton's £82.5m bid—if the IBA would

let_them. The series of crises have led some to believe that the flag-ship of British commercial television has been holed below the waterline and will slowly

the waterline and will slowly sink in the next Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) franchise round in 1989.

Yet despite such a run of problems Mr Dunn, who was director of production at Thames until he was asked to entertainment sector.

Continue all the strength is large and the strength in the run the company in July after the unexpected Cowgill resigna-tion, is optimistic about the

future.
"I think we are in very good shape to win the franchise," says Mr Dunn, who was a heavy middleweight Cambridge boxing "How do I buy an ITV com-blue, and also founded his col-pany?" to which the answer

Thames Television

A screen test for thwarted sellers

By Raymond Snoddy



• Richard Dunn: "hell of a year"

For that forecast to stand a chance of becoming reality the question of ownership is the most serious and immediate problem to be sorted out now that Thorn and BET have revealed themselves as willing

fairly considerable reconstruc-tion which I hope will end up with Thames retaining its with Thames retaining its sovereignty, having a broader based shareholding structure and all its parts intact," says

Indeed, the IBA made it clear at the time of the last franchise round that it wanted the share ownership of Thames—BET and Thorn EMI share equally all the voting shares through their subsidiaries AR Television and Thames Television Holdings—to

be broadened.
Plans for a flotation of about growth rate. Before the bir 20 per cent of its shares were many Thames executives had hardly heard of it.

Thames owners BET and Thorn EMI soon made it clear they wanted to accent Carlton's tree of the state of th carry him into mainstream tele-

On September 6 Mr Green first offered close to £65m for Thames. When this was sum-marily rejected as too low, Carlton, a company capitalised at more than £200m, increased the

Carlton planned its attempt to buy an ITV company over many months. It was three months ago when Mr Green startled Mr David Glencross, the IBA's director of television, by suddenly asking over lunch: was "You don't."

Despite this, Mr Green sub-sequently had talks at the IBA with both Mr John Whitney, the Authority's director-general and Lord Thomson, the IBA

All sides in the affair believe that either Mr Whitney or Lord Thomson, or both, led buyer and sellers to think a deal was

on Friday October 11, just before news of the bid became public Mr Whitney, telephoned Thames shareholders and Mr Green leaving the impression

THAMES RESULTS (Year ending March 31 1985) Turnover: £167.87m Profit: £8.775m Profit on overseas sales:

Loss on UK operations: £4.8m

that he was now bullish about the prospect of the bid going

ahead.

The IBA unexpectedly cut short discussions on October 10 when it said the Carlton bid was unacceptable on the grounds that it would lead to "a major change in the nature and characteristics" of a viable

TTV company.

Apart from pre-empting further discussion the brief statement ahead of the next Authority meeting on October 16 appeared to create a precedent that the ownership of a viable ITV company cannot change hands in mid-franchise and cost BET and Thorn EMI

a lot of money.
"We'll never get anything like as good an offer again," a Thorn executive says plain-

The main IBA concern, it is believed, was the fear that a successful Carlton bid would

create an auction in the shares of other ITV companies.

Most options on the future ownership structure of Thames are still open.

But one possibility being considered envisages a two or even three-stage disposal, In this plan Thorn, which is more eager to move now, would get rid of all its stake as soon as possible, perhaps in a private placing to three or four "blue chip " British companies BET would hold on until the tele-vision company's financial prospects improve and then take part of its money from a 20-30 part of its money from a 20-30 per cent flotation next year. BET might keep a small "anchor" stake to see Thames through the next franchise period before finally bowing out of commercial television after nearly 30 years involvement.

But what sort of a company will the new potential entrants to commercial television be buying? How could the largest ITV company lose nearly £5m on its UK franchise?

"It's been a licence to print money. The trouble is they've given it all away to the staff," a senior executive from a rival ompany says. In fact the process of change

In fact the process of change at Thames is already well under way. After record £13.5m profits in the year to March 1984 Thames board backed a proposal by Mr Dunn to "get among the working practices that are costing us so dear "even at the risk of turning the screens blank. the screens blank.
The two strikes that resulted

cost £5m, but Mr Dunn believes, created a new climate of inductrial relations at Thames. "I was very worried after the strike that the climate would be spoiled for ever. Absolutely the reverse. Tho whole man-agement earned a new respect,"

The salaries of video tape editors have fallen as a result of the strike from about £28,000 to £20,000 a year and Mr Dunn managed to end payments for overtime that wasn't actually worked. Agreements were also reached on rostering the number of transmission staff needed for a particular shift rather than having a fixed crew of 30 on duty even when Thames was only relaying another ITV company's signal. The changes have saved more than £500,000 this year, talks

on reducing the size of camera crews are continuing as part of a continuing campaign to cut

Over the next three years these cuts could lead to between 200 and 300 jobs going at Thames through natural wastage or early retirement. Work is well advanced on

drawing up a five year plan for the company. "We will be in a position to say to the unions after Christmas: this is the future direction

of the company for five years up to and including the fran-chise," says Mr Dunn who emphasises the importance of future negotiation rather than Thure negotiation rather than confrontation.

Thames has also reconstructed its advertising department after hiring Jonathan Shier to run it from Scottish Television. The company's advertising share last month rose to 15.5 per cent after recently hovering around 14 per cent.

14 per cent. As advertising revenue turns up Mr Dundas believes there is a good chance that Thames will have a record year with some executives believing net profit of £15m is possible. Even the final resting place of Dallas will have almost certainly have

will have almost certainly have been decided by Christmas. After a train of disasters
Thames has some good news to
report. The US television
association which awards the
international emmy's has chosen Thames to present a gala even-ing of its programmes in New York in 1987—the first British television organisation to be

In addition to prestige, the "Salute to Thames" will be an extremely attractive shop win-dow for further programmes

sales to the US.

The IBA's mid-term review due to be published in Docember of ITV contractors will almost certainly give Thames an "excellent" rating for its programme output which ranges from Minder to TV Eye. Once when boxing for Cam-bridge, Richard Dunn had to tackle a "quite ferocious look-ing "Royal Marine who was also an ABA champion—but he went the distance.

The 6 foot 4 inch managing director is clearly determined to do the same at Thames and take the company into what he believes is the growth area of commercial satellite television Britain's overseas trade

Why services will not fill the gap

By Lord Aldington

ON OCTOBER 16 Christian Tyler gave a concise summary of the Report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Overseas Trade, The next day Samuel Brittan gave the report tiveness. We are of course an unintended boost with some aware that in developed scornful comments directed at my colleagues and myself. Quite amusing, and no offence taken. It is not the messengers that matter, but the message. Happily, his article, when combined with some intemperate and inaccurate thunder from an over-sensitive quarter of White-ball, helped the report into its fourth edition. Thank you.

The message is clear, how-ever unpalatable. If we are to avoid a crisis in Britain's affairs in the foresecable future, the national attitude towards trade and manufacturing needs to change radically. That is not a message of inevitable doom. We have confidence in Britain's ability to manufacture, given the right conditions.

The argument against us is that there will be no crisis. We can go on as we are. Certainly the reduction of inflation is most welcome, as is the record volume of exports and the improvement in productivity. But these have to be seen in world perspective. Imports of manufactured goods reflect industrial competitiveness just as much as exports do, and are much greater than those exports. There is as a result a deficit in the manufactured goods account of nearly £4bn instead of a surplus of £5bn in 1980. Think of how many extra there would be in employment if we produced and sold £9bn more goods. Though manufacturing output is substantially higher than in 1981, it is still much lower than in 1974. Other major competitor countries, by contrast, record higher manufacturing output since those years. And despite recent improve-ments the gap between our productivity and that of our competitors is larger than it was 10 years ago. Our recent economic growth is also most welcome, as is the surplus in our total balance of trade, but North Sea oil has contributed greatly to both, and in doing so has masked the underlying

services and agriculture are interdependent in the economy. That is not a good reason for allowing manufacturing to decline in output and competieconomies services form a growing part of GDP, but the fact is that alone among its competitor countries Britain's manufacturing output has fallen in absolute terms since

That the demand is there for manufactured goods is proven by the figures of imports into the UK market, as by the flourishing trade in manufactured goods in the world. It is fiddlesticks to say we have not studied the market mechanism. We have observed that the markets of today are not the same as ideal (heuretical markets; governments inter-

The dynamic process of growth and production

even the British Government; credit terms are often vital, and so on. It is in those kinds of market that our manufacturers must compete.

Both the Chapcellor and Mr. Tebbit firmly stated that they were not unilateral disarmers in this or any other field. We asked for more support from the Government to match and sometimes to outdo our competitors. Britain is behind and has to catch up.

Quite rightly the British Government has given over £400m to support innovation and more than £1bn to industry in other ways. So White-hall talk that this kind of support cocoons industry with subsidies is odd. Likewise with help for export promotion. where the extra expenditure recommended is minimal. Since growth and production are a dynamic process, the more our exports are stimulated, the more this feeds into domestic growth. If all that is "corpor-atism," I am not ashamed of it. Governments by their decisions can be a driving force. Look

oroblems that have plagued the around you. British economy for decades. But per perhaps the most Trade.

We agree that manufacturing, important difference between us and Samuel Brittan hes in his belief, which he shares with for the Treasury, that as the oil to trade surplus runs off the rest of the trade balance will automatically improve again. We examined both the forecasts of the decline in North Sea oil output and the automaticity argument. We thought it prudent to base plans on 1980 as the date when Britain's all account is no longer in surplus. It was wrong to write that we had ignored a Government memorandum giving a later date. Our conclusions on auto-maticity are summarised on page 82. Services cannot substi-tute for manufacturing. The decline of manufacturing output was not an inevitable conse-quence of North Sea oil New industries and new products require a long time-scale. Lost capacity will take time to restore. Lost markets at home and abroad will take time to regain. Recovery from the present base is not just a matter of improvement. You cannot improve what has gone.

> The exchange rate is affected be many other factors than the oil balance. And the interest rate is also not unimportant. The ups and downs in the oil account do not by themselves tackle the long-term factors which over many decades have damaged the competitiveness of manufacturing in Britain, Longterm factors identified by the Committee led to its call for a change in national attitudes to give manufacturing a higher place in society, in education, in careers, and in financial and industrial policies. Recent events have made that change all the more urgent. The longer we delay, the steeper the climb. Ours is not a "doom and gloom report." With a change in national attitudes our manufacturers can capture more markets at home and abroad, and can create a larger industrial base. Of course, in the long run, even without the changes steps can be taken to balance the trade account. But at what living? High, because the nation has woken up to the importance of manufacture or low, because it has not?

The author was charman of the Lords Select Committee on Overseas

International Tin Council

From Mr P Farthing

Sir,-Dr Herman's article (November 5) on the role of the International Tin Council in the present crisis is, as usual, topical and stimulating.

If I may, however, I should like to dispell the impression given by his final paragraphs that creditors of the ITC will be unable to resort to the council's property for the pur-pose of obtaining satisfaction of arbitration awards which may well be made in their

Dr Herman refers to Article 8 of the headquarters agreement between the British Govern-ment and the council, drawing ment and the council, drawing attention to the fact that the agreement provides that the property and assets of the council shall be immune from judicial constraint. From this he concludes that the assets of the council may not be taken in enforcement of arbitration

awards.

In this, I think, he may be mistaken, because he does not appear to have taken into account the International Tin account the international 1th Council (Immunities and Pri-vileges) Order 1972 made pursuant to powers granted by the International Organisations

This order incorporates into our domestic law some of the provisions of the headquarters agreement, including the con-ferring of corporate personality upon the council, and the granting of a degree of immunity from suit. Under the Order of 1972 the council has a genral immunity from suit except for the purpose of enforcing arbitration awards.

But I do not believe that the value of this provision is reduced in the way in which Dr Herman suggests. The provision of Article 8 of the beadquarters agreement rendering the property and assets of the council immune from judicial countraint does not appear in the Immunity Order of 1972, and therefore, in my opinion. is not part of our domestic

I therefore believe that all the free and available assets of the council will be available to its creditors to enforce any arbitration award which they may obtain.

Nevertheless, one must hope

that the meeting of the council will lead to a resolution of the present crisis, and the payment full of the council's

creditors. No doubt the meeting will also wish to consider whether, or how, the council is to operor how, the council is to operate in the future. I would suggest that it is time that this anomalous immunity from suit were removed from a body which it is no more nor less than a market trader, and which should be bound by the same legal obligations as any legal obligations as any other person who makes a con-

Letters to the Editor

tract in a commodity market. If the sovereign states which are members of the council sought to support the price of tin by buying it in London in their own names, they would not be immune from suit in our courts on the contracts which they made. Just because they choose to achieve the same choose to active the same objective through the medium of the council there is no reason why they should not be subject to the same legal jurisdiction as if they had traded personally. Peter J. Farthing.

Clyde and Co, 30 Mincing Lane, EC3.

Accounting for pit closures From Dr A. Berry

Sir. — Mr Butler of the National Coal Board, following upon the Morpeth et al inquiry, continues to claim (October 31) that the original article in Accommancy contained big mis-understandings, inaccuracies and misconceptions.

In that article, inter alia, was argued that much of the was argued that intend to the public debate and justification for pit closures was based upon accounting notions of profit and loss. Witness to this is a programme to reduce NCB capacity to enable it to reach break-even in a couple of years. So not just public debate but also public policy is based upon account-

ing notions.

The original accountancy article did not claim that the NCB only relied upon the pit statement of profit and loss (the F23) in closure decision. But it did demonstrate the technical accounting problems of that statement and does demonstrate that accounting notions of profit and loss are not wholly relevant to pit closure, not only because of the cost measurement issues but also because of the problem of attaching an appropriate value to the pit revenues.

Robinson of London Business School has shown how an avoidable cost approach would lead to different conclusions on NCB capacity and Glyn of Oxford has shown that a social coat benefit analysis would lead to different conclusions again. Mr Butler, along with the Morpeth group, seems not to want to

perty of the NCB. That group was commissioned as consul tants by the NCB. Thus it was not allowed to discuss terms of reference, methods of study or its analysis of my research and publications. Indeed, Professor Stamp claimed that "they were too busy to go into libraries and dig these things out." Hence it seems to have relied upon what it could glean from have given it the same cour teous assistance which was afforded to me and my col-

eagues.
Although any inquiry by the Morpeth group would certainly be helpful to the development of accounting practices in the NCB it is a pity that this group's focus upon a narrow misunderstanding of the original accountancy article does limit its contribution to public librate.

(Dr) Anthony J. Berry. Manchester Business School, Booth Street West, Manchester.

IoD and Serps

From Mr M. Ballisat

Sir,—You report (October 31) that Sir John Hoskyns director-general of the Institute of Directors, states that continuing Serps implies first a reduced scope for personal pensions and second that the population cannot be entrusted to save to top up their retire-

ment income. There is already ample scope for topping up retirement income in a tax efficient man-ner and this argument just does not stand up to examination.

A much more serious consequence of abolishing Serps would be the loss of entitle-ment to retirement income as a consequence of periods of unemployment. At present, the state earnings related pension is calculated on the best 20 years' revalued earnings. Thus, periods of unemployment are unlikely to reduce to any great extent the retirement benefit. A similar protection is included in the basic state pension as a contribution credit" is given

Sir John cannot assume that group, seems not to want to engage seriously with the problem created by the government requirement for accounting notions of break-even.

The Morpeth group claims to be an independent committee of inquiry, yet its report is published by and indeed is the pro-

during unemployment

mobility in the private sector, care needs to be taken not to abolish a retirement system just at the time when many of its advantages will be M. T. Ballisat. 25 Hillgate Street, W8.

Firing the chief executive

Fтот Mt P. O'Shea,

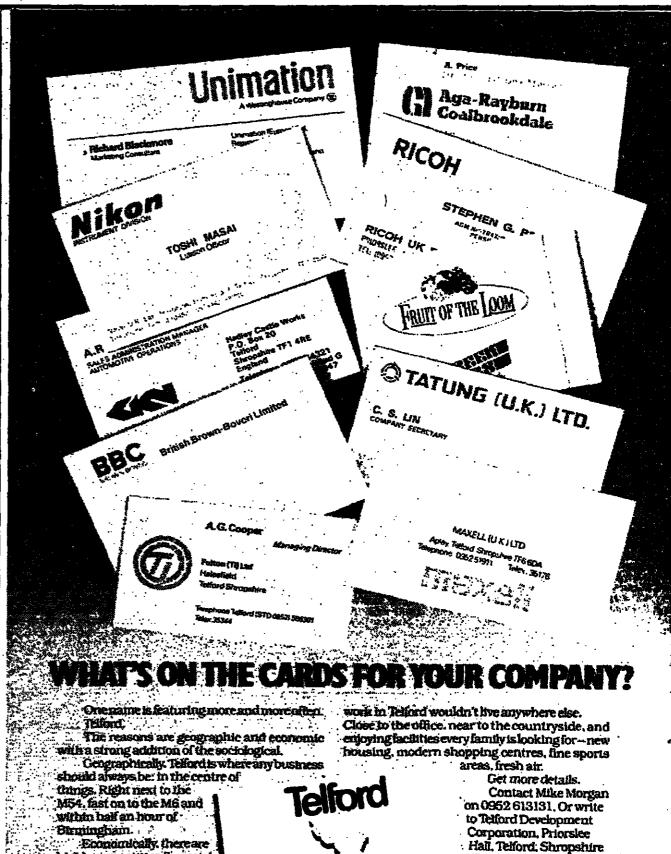
Sir,—In the conclusion of the Lex column on October 31 we read that "Many of Britain's . . . companies operate with a chair-man/chief executive officer but there are strong arguments for retaining a division between the two. The chairman's job is, among other things, to fire an among duter things, to me an inadequate chief executive."

There may be a case for a division between the two but not because it is the chairman's job to fire a chief executive.
They are both appointed by a
resolution of the board of
directors and only that board can fire one or both of them. By definition there is no one above the chief executive officer in the chain of command except the directors as a board. The chairman's job is to chair meetings and really nothing else unless the articles and/or the board say otherwise. P. J. Pace O'Shea, 13 Westchester Drive, NW4.

Exports of weapons

Sir, — Having just read Bridget Bloom's article on "How GEC was put on the spot" (October 22) I saw no reference in it to the possible export opportunities of any of weapon systems discussed. As a civil servant on secondment from industry in the early 1980s who was once very much involved with Marconi's two torpedo programmes, Stingray and Spearfish, the case for a grown industry rested largely on the longer term ability to exploit the advanced technology in overseas markets. If such a situation is still relevant then maybe even the £5bn cost quoted by Mr Peter Levene is not quite so horrendous as it sounds. In only rare instances have British weapons systems been developed with non-UK customers in mind and it is to GEC's credit that back in the mid to late 1970s it recognised this fault in the MoD's thinking process. Without there being export possibilities I don't believe GEC or any other company can undertake any major weapon development and earn a reasonable return except, of course, at the

M. H. Peacock 1, Leyds Street. Broam fontein.



packages that have already

highly competitive financial attracted hundreds of national and international companies. Sociological? People who

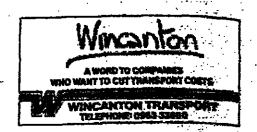
pank of Scotland Money Market Cheave Account

TF29NT.

Meanwhile, don't print too many cards with your present address on.

FINANCIALTIMES

Wednesday November 6 1985



Chris Sherwell reports on disarray in Manila after the call for a snap presidential poll

Marcos makes himself an election issue

PRESIDENT Ferdinand Marcos's declaration this week that he wants a snap presidential election in the nes has thrown an already confused domestic political scene into disarray.

Mr Marcos said he intended to ask parliament to call a poll for January 17. An election, he said, would "erase doubts" about his govern-ment's popularity. "We need a snap election to convince the world that our programme is supported by the people."

His proposal must still be confirmed by the ruling New Society movement, perhaps this weekend. In August, the party discarded the idea of a November poil after successfully crushing an opposition im-

This time, US pressure on Mr Marcos to renew his mandate appears to have prompted the election plan, although Washington has constantly denied pushing him in that direction. Diplomats are also treating this week's proposal more seriously, if only because Mr Marcos, who is 68 and has held power for 20 uncharacteristically ventured out of the presidential palace to launch his campaign on Monday.

Mr Marcos's current six-year term is not due to expire until 1987 and most people feel he would not go ahead with an election without UNIDO, the Philippines' largest opposition party, said yesterday it would seek court action to prevent President Ferdinand Mar cos from calling presidential elections in January, Our For-

eign Staff writes. It said such an election would be unconstitutional, since "no snap election can take place

unless the president becomes

being sure of winning it. He has all the advantages of an incumbent, with easy access to the local media and greater resources than his op-ponents. For two years, the fractious opposition has failed to agree on a single candidate who could ccessfully challenge him.

Analysts agree, however, that if opposition differences were put aside in support of Mrs Cory Aquino, the stage would be set for a dramatic electoral showdown

Mrs Aquino is the widow of Mr Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader whose assassination in August 1983 contributed crucially to the present crisis in the Philippines. Diplomats see her as a credible candidate, despite her inexperience. Victory, they say, would be little short of poetic.

BY JASON CRISP

Machines, the US computer giant, plans a temporary reduction in pro-

in the first quarter of the year.

optimistic forecasting by IBM. De-

mand for personal computers in the

European market is currently much

stronger than the US where growth

IBM typically has about a 35 per

cent share of the market in Euro-

policies

for France

gulated capital markets.

Continued from Page 1

break down barriers and step up

competition on France's highly-re-

From next month, companies will

BUSINESS

terday that Mr Marcos himself might be unclear over his elecwould be asked to decide we ther an election would be held and that the vacant post of vice-president would also be contested.

cos's terms. Questions have already arisen about the legitimacy of his latest move, since technically he should resign office first, something he has plainly ruled out. The dilemma for the opposition is

acute. If Mr Marcos is contriving a set of circumstances not envisaged by the constitution, which provides for presidential and vice-presidential elections in the event of his death, incapacity or resignation, a positive response from the opposi-tion to his political challenge is likely to render any legal problem

However, to boycott an election would leave the way open for Mr Marcos to fight alone or simply call the whole affair off, telling Washington that at least he tried. Either Nevertheless, an election will solve little if it is called on Mr Mar-likely to be reduced. way, the opposition is embarrassed and the scope for US pressure is likely to be reduced.

IBM to cut computer output

at UK European supply base

it remains a delicate question of Mr Marcos fully to implement an whether an election, if it went IMF-inspired reform programme abead, would actually placate US has endangered the inflow of fresh opinion. Initially, that would depend on whether the poll is free and fair. The last general election in May 1984 was freer and fairer than most in the Philippines but hand. ahead, would actually placate US opinion. Initially, that would demost in the Philippines, but hardly a model of virtue. The US, for its part, has already indicated that it will only observe and not supervise a presidential poll.

The biggest questions for ever-ody, however, are whether an earelection is likely to counter the intensifying guerrilla insurgency throughout the country or put the persistently wayward economy eack on the rails. Diplomats and bankers suggest the answers at present are both negative, although Mr Marcos has already advertisedthe proposed election as a key to

solving the two problems. Communist-inspired New People's Army, its strength now put above 12,000 armed men, can be ex-pected to use an election campaign as a chance to illustrate its strength in rural and urban areas.

Its recent military successes have demonstrated its growing infinence and added to the rising anxiety in Washington, which sees a threat to the strategically important air and naval bases in the Philippines and does not want "another Iran." On the economic front, the failure ever leave office peacefully.

those in the same period this year

It also stated that production for

the whole of 1986 would not be ma

holding of an instalment on the SDR 615m (\$658m) IMF standby credit, and that in turn will affect disbursement of a \$825m commer cial loan from the Philippines

At issue is Mr Marcos's apparent refusal to make real reforms in the coconut and sugar industries - both dominated by his associates - and the Government's budget definit, which has exceeded its limits because of falling revenues and high-er expenditures. A presidential elections campaign can be expected to swell that deficit still further, delaying even longer a return to economic order.

If that means continued negative growth, further unemployment and hardship and greater popular disaf-fection, those are portents for the future. For Mr Marcos, the immediate issue is power and how to retain it. He has successfully wrong-footed his opponents countless times before, and is sustained by a belief in his own leadership. To some, his latest actions suggest that the central issue now is whether he will

UK close to securing Malaysian water deal

By Chris Sherwell in Singapore and Christian Tyler in London

BRITAIN appears to be close to clinching a water distribution contract in Malaysia that would rank as one of the most valuable orders ever won by a UK company in south-east Asia.

Biwater, a private specialist engineering company, is negotiating for a share in a huge five year project costing up to MS1.8bn (\$700m).

According to British government officials, Biwater's share of the project could be worth £200m if the negotiations succeed. Other official sources put it as high as £230m to £240m. The company itself would not comment last night.

If the deal goes through, it will be with the help of £60m of UK government aid over four years, itself said for one project from the UK's aid and trade provision. This year's total provision is only £86m.

The Export Credits Guarantee Department, a government agency, is prepared to guarantee repayment of loans of £170m to £180m, A syndicate of banks has been lined up to provide the credit.

Successful completion of the deal would undoubtedly be hailed by British ministers, still smarting over the loss of the Bosporus bridge contract to the Japanese, as evi-dence of UK competitiveness and a welcome boost for employment.

A letter of intent has already been issued by the Malaysian Gov-eroment to Biwater and its Malay-

The overall project, made up of 181 separate schemes on the penin-sula and islands, will bring pure drinking water to 2m - and eventually 4m - people in even the most remote rural areas. It is part of a planned upgrading of Malaysia's rural infrastructure generally, announced for the period covered by

Speculation has intensified in recent days over whether all of the water contracts will ultimately go to Biwater. Competitors from other countries - France and Japan are mentioned - are believed to be hovering in the wings.

Biwater is a private company with a turnover of £100m a year, based in Dorking, south-west of London. There are 16 companies in the group, six of them outside the UK, specialising in the supply and manufacture of water supply equip-ment as well as civil engineering.

Wide differences for summit talks

Mr Yurchenko was not acting under The Soviet authorities had given assurances that Mr Yurchenko would not try to leave the US co-vertly before the interview, the

State Department said. The Soviet authorities understood that Washington would regard it as "a very erious matter" were he to attempt The US, in any case, had taken

THE LEX COLUMN

Next best is good enough

The stores sector must be dis-ounting everything short of mireles from its high flyers, for how else can one explain the sour re-sponse in yesterday's market to the splendid figures from J. Hepworth? none of its appeal as a home for funk money, having climbed back up to its high level relative to the market on the basis of last week's results from Marks and Spencer. But J. Hepworth only had to produce pre-tax profits growing more than twice as fast as Marks - to £20m for the year to August – to see its share price fall 6p to 220p. What is sauce for the goose is

sauce for the gander. The expansion of Next, which has under-pinned the 50 per cent compound growth at J. Hepworth in the past four years, has been largely at the expense of Marks - now evidently coming to grips with womens

Next idea was to breathe life into the dead bones of the old Hepworth chain; but now that these stores are down to a mere 19 per cent of the total square footage, this avenue of cheap expansion is all but blocked. This is reflected as much in the change of corporate name to Next as in the 14-fold increase in last year's interest charge. Equally, expansion into new and risky fields, such as lingerie or hairdressing, will no longer be overwhelmingly fi-nanced out of the slew of property disposals that left some £2m in profit below the line even after the aunch costs of Next Interiors.

And in the world of middlingto-high fashion, a pre-interest margin of more than last year's 14 per cent will be hard to achieve except through a last spasm of losselimination at Hepworth. Competition from Burton and Co will see to

Growth at the pre-tax level of 30 per cent or more should be well in hand for the current year; but, beyond that, things do not look so

Property debentures

For the asset-rich end of the property sector, at least, the corporate debenture market has now well and truly re-opened. In the past few months there have been six issues, taking in almost £400m of longterm money at improving terms. Yesterday's 40-year debenture from and associates. Land Securities provides a benchmark for the market since the issue weeks to October 5 were just ahead has been priced only 40 basis points of most forecasts at £92.4m pre-tax office after all.

with corresponding onshore equipment for the Forties field by BP Petroleum Devel-

opment in Aberdeen.
At BP's control centre, a dual
PMS 60 control system with
Argus 700 GX and GL processors is replacing Ferranti
equipment installed over ten

years ago. The system includes 25 telemetry outstations. Associated communications equipment is sub-contracted to Ferranti Offshore Systems in Aberdeen.

A mechanical garage fore-

A mechanical garage infe-court fuel pump has been introduced into the range of Autocourt fuel dispensing systems produced by Ferranti Industrial Electronics of Dalkeith, Midlothian.

C. E. Automation of Reading,

printed circuit board design and prototype specialists, has installed a Ferranti EP330 photoplotter at its manu-facturing plant in Livingston, West Lothian.

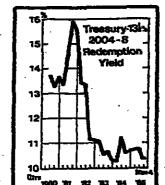
system to serve the group's York-based engineering

design and planning offices.

New fuel pump

Briefly . . .

opment in Aberdeen.



above the reference gilt, shown in our chart, a year ago, the difference would have been at least a full

It would be hard, of course, to find a better credit than Land, whose total borrowings before the issue were only equal to 10 per cent of net assets. The quality of those assets and the security of the income they generate explain why Land was able to borrow a few points more cheaply than the World Bank, and a full quarter point below yields at which other property issues have lately been priced. Demand for well-secured ultra-long sterling debt is evidently in good

Except in the unlikely circumstance of a prolonged deflation, it also makes eminently good sense for the property companies to be picking up their money in this way, even at double-figure yields. At present discounts, equity issues are deservedly unpopular, while the cost of servicing a dividend on equivalent amounts of equity would probably outstrip that of the bond within the decade. In any case, Land's balance sheet of the year.

remains undergeared even by the standards of this now-conservative sector. Having got its feet wet, and tested the market's appetite, Land would probably win friends for its ordinary shares by increasing the size of the issue before too long.

J. Sainsbury

Profits growth at J. Sainsbury is no longer a simple matter of selling more food at higher margins in big-ger stores. The food retnilers are still doing an admirable job but, to anyone who pays income tax. Even satisfy the stock market, they now for a basic-rate taxpayer the annual need a little help from accountants net return looks roughly a percen-

and the share price duly responded with a 6p rise to 356p. But over one third of the 23.2 per cent incre reported profits arose from the effect of higher capitalized interest (Effin against £4m) and an excep-tional burst in the associate contri-

Not that there is much the matter with the underlying trading performance. Gross margins are healthy, supermarket volume growth was over 9 per cent in the six mo and productivity was around 5 per cent higher despite the substantial gap between food price and wage cost inflation.

Sainsbury's housekeeping has always been strong enough to support a premium rating in the sector and a p/e in the low twenties - assuming full-year profits of £185m looks no more exorbitant now than it has ever done. But, with a revita-lised Tesco trading on a multiple of only 15. Sainsbury cannot let the grass grow under its feet. Extended opening hours should help the food retailers next year but, with cash still running out of the business. Sainsbury will be relying on the ar-countants and associates for a

National Savings

Yesterday's money-supply figures for banking October were prese ed on the new Mansion House basis and provided an excellent excess for the Government Broker to take the rest of the year off.

When external and foreign our rency finance of the public sector is counted towards PSBR funding, as it is now, the Treasury comes out well ahead of the game. It appears already to have funded £0.55m of the PSBR outstanding for the rest

So, on the Government's numbers, there is only about £1%bn to go and a portion of that should come from National Savings, which, as of Monday, will be offering a glamorous new instrument. The indexed-income bond is an indexlinked band with a new twist. The income is linked to the RPI and the capital is unprotected.

Stockbroking computers were working flat out yesterday to find merits in the new instrument but sadly it looks rather unattractive to and associates. tage point below a comparable Yesterday's results for the 28 index-linked. Perhaps the Government Broker should sta

Communists unlikely to help Craxi

By James Buxton in Rome

THE ITALIAN Communist party appeared yesterday to reject the appeal by Mr Bettino Craxi, the Socialist Prime Minister, to co-operate with the Government in obtaining ift parliamentary approval of the

Mr Alessandro Natta, the Communist party leader, told Parliant his party considered the budget to be part of a whole economic strategy that was against the interests of the working class. He also said the five-party coalition Govern-ment, which has been reconstituted after President Francesco Cossiga rejected Mr Craxi's resignation last week, was in itself divided over the

budget. Mr Natta's statement to parliament did not specifically rule out all co-operation, but made it sound as if any large concession to the Government would be extremely

Mr Craxi made his request for Communist party assistance in his speech to Parliament on Monday. opening the debate that will lead to a vote of confidence in his Governent. The vote will probably be held topight.

The Government is afraid that after the time lost both during the Achille Lauro hijacking and in the political crisis that followed it there is a serious danger that it will not get the budget approved by the deadline of December 31.

That would mean the Government would have to be financed in the early months next year on a very inflexible, provisional basis. Mr Craxi evidently hoped he

could expect some help on that do-mestic issue from the leading opposition party, which made a volte face during the Achille Lauro af-fair and supported him for his tough line with the US Government over the American role in the

In practice, much government legislation in Italy is assisted in its passage through Parliament by the cy of a tacit help of the Communist party.

terially affected, which would indicate it is a stock problem. duction of personal computers at its Research Group, IBM has a 66 per Greenock plant in Scotland, which cent share of sales to large and supplies all Europe, medium sized corporations The move appears to follow a per cent to small business. medium-sized corporations and 30 IBM said: "We are not dissatisfied with our inventory position." It added that reports of very high build-up of stocks and has meant News of IBM's rescheduling of orders coincides with an analysts' that orders from sub-contractors stocks in the US were "grossly mismeeting at Greenock today which is such as Thorn EMI and AB Elecleading," and there was no question tronics have had to be rescheduled. being attended by senior IBM manpersonal computers being However, IBM said it was a result

pean countries, which is significant-

ly lower than in the US According

to Ms Jan Lewis of the Palo Alto

ment from the U.S., including Mr John Akers, president and chie of the seasonal nature of personal computer sales, which are weakest executive officer. This week, IBM cut the price of several of its PCs One analyst thought the cut in by an average of 15 per cent production was a result of over-

1986 and was a short-term temporary measure, but would not say how long it was expected to last. The company expected sales of PCs in the first quarter of 1986 to exceed

shipped from the US to Europe, nor would there be any redundancies at

throughout Europe.

IBM said the rescheduling of orders affected the early part of

also sells components.

BY ALEXANDER NICOLL IN LONDON

LENDING by banks to British com-

The surge in credit demand con-

Mo, mostly consisting of notes and coins in circulation, fell by an

New monetary | UK corporate credit

be able to tap the money market directly through issuing US-style commercial paper in minimum batches of FFr 5m (\$630,000) or FFr 10m. Additionally, short-term Treasury bonds, which traditionally in France have been issued solely to banks and other financial institutions, will be opened up for subscription by all categories of Banks have criticised Mr Beregovoy's commercial paper initiative on the grounds that top-class com-

panies will in future have the op-portunity of short-circuiting the its target range.
The authorities appear to have inbanking system. However, prime borrowers are already raising funds from French banks at very fine margins because of the general slowdown in corporate lending this Commercial paper issues, which will have maturities of between 10 and 180 days, will have to be backed

to a level of 95 per cent of their value by standby credits from the banks. The Finance Ministry hopes to use the commercial paper market to push French companies into improving the quality and frequency of appearance of their financial

demand up sharply

terpreted the figures, taken as a

panies and individuals accelerated to mid-October to register a 1½ per sharply in October, suggesting the authorities will maintain a cautious three months. The move took it stance in setting interest rate close to the bottom of its annual

tributed to continued strong growth of the sterling M3 measure of money supply, comprising cash and bank deposits, for which the Government last month abandoned its annual target range because of structural changes in the economy.

In contrast, the much narrower Mo aggregate, which has assumed a more important role in policymaking, showed a small drop in the banking month ending in mid-October, and remained well within

whole, as indicating that monetary policy is sufficiently tight, but as of-fering little scope for near-term substantial cuts in interest rates. Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in his Man-sion House speech to bankers last month that monetary policy would be determined by the performance of the Mo aggregate and of sterling on the foreign exchange markets. Since then, the pound has been rel-atively stable on a trade-weighted

The change in orders will affect AB Electronics and Thorn EMI. Both companies expected to redeploy staff working on IBM PC products to other areas. IBM is AB Electronics' largest single customer.In addition to supplying IBM with printed-circuit boards for the PC, it

NEWS REVIEW

BUSINESS **BP** contract for Ferranti Ferranti Computer Systems, Wythenshawe Division, has been awarded a contract to upgrade platform telemetry and communications systems

sian partner, Antah Holdings.

the Fifth Malaysia Plan, 1986-1990.

Continued from Page 1

"legal and security precautions" to ensure that he could not leave without US permission, the State Department said. He did not enjoy

ADVERTISEMENT

PERSONAL COMPUTERS Pitman chooses Ferranti

Pitman Central College in London has recently taken delivery of Ferranti microcomputer systems worth £20,000. The PC 860s were 120,000. The PC 860s were ordered for training students on individual and group courses in end-user applications like word processing, spreadsheets and database management.

The package of micros, monitors and printers comes complete with the Perfect II software suite and a year's on-site maintenance. Pitman considered several other packages but the sheer value-formoney of the Ferranti micro and feedback from several

sources pointed to the PC 860. Extending this recently launched PC 860 IBM-compatible micro range, Ferranti Computer Systems, Wythenshawe Division, now offers a larger capacity hard disk model, the PC 860 XT-20 Mbyte. 20 Mbyte.

The £2,795 XT 20 Mbyte is one of the few micros available with this degree of integral hard disk capacity and is aimed at the fast growing number of users requiring the extra storage capacity for intensive use. The standard 10 Mbyte XT. at £2,150, and the twin floppy PC 860 at £1,250 have both already sold well.

COMMUNICATIONS

Telex management for oil industry

Oil company, Amerada Hess, has ordered a second Ferranti Telex Manager for its Aberdeen office after its first London-based Telex Manager proved cost effective and saved office staff time.

The new Telex Manager will enable Amerada Hess Aberdeen office to receive messages, automatically store on magnetic disc and then route directly to specified terminals on its contract

The street of the control of the con

drilling rigs in the North Sea for display and printing. The Telex Manager removes the need for paper tape and has facilities for creating, editing and layout of telex messages enhancing accuracy and clarity.

The system has already proved popular with Shell Chemicals, Esso Chemicals, Texas Eastern North Sea and Tricentrol Oil Corporation.



World Weather

Telecom turns to IBM

Continued from Page 1'

He said it would help to increase the value of ICL's UK mainframe computer orders this year by 35 per cent over last year, when orders totalled more than £200m. The ICL equipment will be used

in six of the 24 districts into which

BT has recently divided its nationwide operations. The seventh Series 39 will be used for development The contracts were awarded on a single-tender basis after intensive lobbying by ICL to win part of the

the year" and reflected BT's would not order any more of its mainframe computers for CSS.

BT has so far installed nine IBM computers, the first of them last summer. ICL is due to deliver its first Series 39 machine early next

The broad sterling M3 aggregate

still viewed by London markets and the Bank of England as important

even though distortions have

pushed it far above its former tar-

get range, rose % per cent in Octo-

ber, putting its annualised growth rate during the past three months

There was disappointment in

London markets at the £2.1bn rise

in bank lending, well above Sep-tember's low £1bn increase and giv-

ing an average rise of £1.6bn during

the past six months.

Although the monetary authori-

ties could be expected to view with

concern a series of lending in-creases at October's pace, govern-ment officials appear to feel the

October figures by themselves pro-

ment. Data on government debt

sales showed that the government more than funded the public-sector

borrowing requirement during the

month, making up for previous months when the requirement was

vide little cause for worry. The rise in bank lending was off-set by a small £200m gain in the public-sector borrowing require-

at 19% per cent.

There had been strong pressures in BT to standardise all its computers on IBM and IBM-compatible products. Last year, BT and IBM proposed jointly to launch an electronic information network in the UK, but the plan was vetoed by the

British Government. The CSS programme is intended CSS contracts. BT said it might buy to replace most of BT's existing further terminals from ICL but computer systems.

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The Government is working out measures to aid the economy now that the halcyon days of double digit growth are over. More realistic targets should help to restore confidence in Prime Minister Lee's long-established order

Economic challenges ahead

By ALAIN CASS, Asia Editor

THE FUTURE was roster. The present used to be easier. Singapore, mighty city-state, never had to look over its shoulder. Chinese emerprise, determination and the (very) for the time being.

Others, mostly, it should be said, foreigners, are not so sure. The looks as if the process the fact that Singapore its losing the battle to respond to the country is pricing itself out of world markets — at least industrialised countries (mcs). shoulder. Chinese enterprise, of world markets determination and the (very) for the time being from hand of Lee Kuan Yew

The downturn has

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कार-साम्

shade of grey and the present 1985 is hard going. Government—the ministers talk of a deeper than—is usual recession, rather than an year. economic crisis. This is prob-ably not an understatement, sent difficulties lie in the fact the

uncomfortable fact that, for the place has become uneconomic." rogative, then he may have to first time, Singapore's economy The optimists say that, as review the system. first time, Singapore's economy
The optimists say that, as will stagnate this year and may soon as the U.S. economy picks even experience negative up and Singapore makes the growth after years of out right tactical changes to im-

wages to transform Singapore, Olympian path.

for the time being.

The downturn has been sudden and savage. The construction sector, which seemed unstriction which will peak in the year. They watch as the outside world becomes more hostile and teeters on the edge of a trade war, as protectionist; sentiment in Europe and the U.S. gathers pace. And they wonder, as one observer puts it, whether fully in the year in the second war. The future looks a darker panies have gone to the wall in operates are not necessary.

These doubts are doubts as a darker panies have gone to the wall in operates are not necessary. panies have gone to the wall in operates are not necessary.

1985 than last year. Investment These doubts are underli —the lifeblood of the economy -is down 30 per cent on last time, the ruling party no longer

performing much of the rest prove its competitiveness, the of the world.

economy will revive and the The deliberate increase in country will be back on its

These doubts are underlined seems invulnerable. The 13 per cent swing against the PAP in the December 1984 elections, resulting in the victory of two opposition candidates was a ably not an understatement, since inflation is less than 3 that total labour costs increased resulting in the victory of two per cept, the currency is strong, incomes are high, there is no unemployment and no external only 4.6 per cent during the threat to the country's integrated of mission puts it "a way Singapore's electorate chose; But, this cannot conceal the widespread realisation that this to evercise its democratic frequency.



Tougher times face the financial markets and Singaporeans where Prime Minister Lee has to deal with stop signals on growth

would be a bit more discriminating in future.

Nevertheless, if the 1984 resuit represents a trend it poses

would be a bit more discrimisociety.

"What we have to do."

"What we have to do." sult represents a trend it poses a major challenge to a party secure in its own well-tested. side world becomes more hostile almost arrogant sense of and teeters on the edge of a superiority. All the more so trade war, as protectionist sensince the combined opposition timent in Europe and the U.S. poll of over 33 per cent of votes cast was not confined to one or two constituencies but reflected as Mr Goh Chok Tong. the first deputy prime minister and Mr Lee's lively successor. conceded a widespread feel-

Superiority

The Government admits that one of the major factors which pore is nothing if not a success led to the election upset was Singapore's paternalistic—some Singapore has trebled its would say intrusive—style of gross national product in the government.

Singapore is a society where cleanliness, morality and the had overtaken Spain, and last disciplines of a mandarmate year it began to leave Israel are prized above all other behind. Younger and more sensitive those. There are those who It has achieved this without, heads quickly pointed out that he doubt continue to vote for prime minister Mr S. Rajarat-mr Lee's remarks the not sound the PAP. There are many nam, puts it, "turning independent heads here into a scourge." By Singapore, but merely expressed increasingly resent the Government has the hope that the electorate mem's excess of zeal in its preserved racial harmony in a

"What we have to do," volunteered Mr Goh, "is listen more carefully to what people are saying, explain our policies more thoroughly and, where necessary, make adjustments." The election results and the economic downturn present the PAP with a double challenge. The established order is under pressure and, as it is well

Faced with this challenge the government could rest on its achievements and hope the ship rights itself in due course. There are, after all, plenty of achievements. Mr Lee's Singa-

aware, new responses need to

Singapore has trebled its past decade. By 1981 it had overtaken Greece. By 1983 it

modern flats.

It has one of the most successful airlines in the world, businessmen who can compete on equal terms with the best, modern architecture, which is occasionally dazzling and an educational system which, though excessively zealous in pastern produces represent the parts, produces some of the best minds in Asia. Above all,

Singapore works
But, as Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong, the prime mini-ster's son and a likely candidate for his job in a few years' time concedes: "Gratitude is not a basis for legitimacy. Also success raises expectations which, in hard times, no govern-ment and economy can possibly

Brigadier Lee and others of his generation seem to recognise that some things must change if what Singapore has achieved so far is to survive and prosper. The question is what, and how deep should that change be?

One change which will come by itself is the departure of the

present leadership. Mr Lee semor has indicated he will step down from the premiership when he is 65 which is three years' time. A new generation of leaders, carefully gromoed and, in some cases, propelled

into high office at breakneck speed is already in place. Some of them seem to con-cede that the time may have come to loosen up. They sense that the "state-knows-best" attitude—both in the political and the economic sphere—may have outrun its course as an infallible prescription for government.
Whether this heralds changes

in substance as opposed to degree remains to be seen. On the political front probably not. The new generation of leaders have inherited their pre-decessors' zeal for a robust morality, patriotism, incor-ruptibility and a respect for

hierarchy and hard work. Little Singapore sees itself awash in a hostile sea and the prime minister is said to take an increasingly apocalyptic increasingly apocalyptic of the world so this is no time for idle concession. liberalism.

In the economic field, how-(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

The Economy

The country faces up to the shock of zero growth

Politics December's election proved a turning point for Prime Minister Lee

profile of Lee Hsien Loong Manufacturing

In father's footsteps:

Construction takes the brunt of the recession

Labour

Joh losses confined to foreign workers

Stock Market

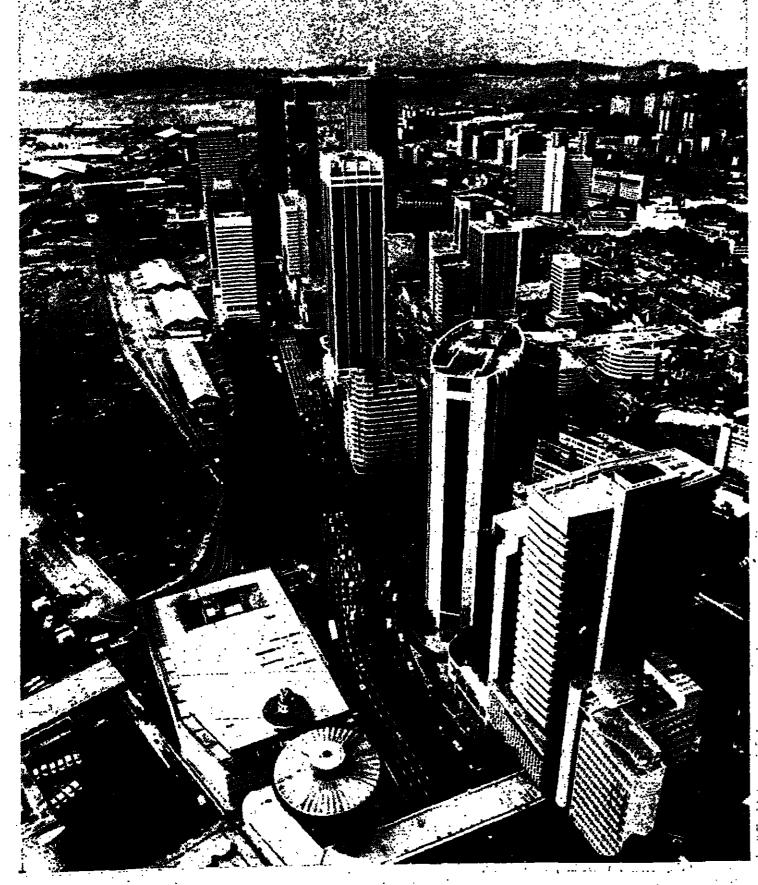
The fizz goes out of shares Trade & foreign

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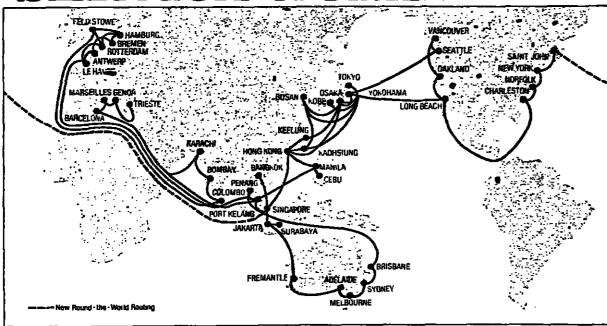
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Committee and the committee of the commi

The year the miracle failed to work

Economy

KIERAN COOKE

FOR YEARS, Singapore has felt isolated from the many economic victssitudes visited on other countries. As others floundered, it progressed. Dubbed a modern day economic miracle. Singapore adopted an almost arrogant faith in its own invulnerability as the economy expanded and an ever greater level of affluence was attained. But in 1985, the bluster suddenly disappeared. Singapore, said the deputy prime minister, Mr Goh Ghok Tong, was in a state of economic crisis. Dubbed a modern day economic

Just how deep and how prolonged that crisis will be—or if in fact there is a crisis—is still difficult to gauge. Alarm has revolved round a government forecast that this year, for the first time since self-rule began more than 25 years ago, Singapore will have zero and possibly negative economic growth.

negative economic growth.

The news was a shock to a country which through the seventies had experienced many years of double digit growth. In 1983, overall growth went up by 7.9 per cent, last year it went up hy 8.2 per cent. Most feel it will be some time. if ever, before such figures are achieved again.

Singapore is acutely sensitive to external economic factors and the general downturn in the growth of world trade over the last 12 months has done a lot of damage. In particular, declining growth in demand in the United States—which over the past two years has sup-planted Malaysia as Singapore's biggest export market—has had a severe impact on the economy.

In 1983 exports to the U.S. led by electronics equipment and other manufactured goods. went up by 53 per cent. Last year they rose by 25 per cent, worth \$\$10.29bn, while total exports went up 11 per cent, worth \$\$51bn. Growth in exports to the U.S. this year is unlikely to exceed 10 per cent while exports to the U.S. this year is unlikely to exceed 10 per cent while overall export growth is expected to be under 3 per cent.

Fall in imports

A drop in imports over recent months narrowed Singapore's trade deficit in August 1985 to S\$4.96bn compared to S\$6.62bn peaked and with few large pri-at the same time last year. How-ever, as nearly 40 per cent of the outlook is bleak. The prototal exports are made up of reexports, declining imports are
hardly a welcome sign—a reflection both of the general trading
is little belief in an upturn in downturn and the weak prices the near or even distant future. for commodities shipped Tourism, which contributes through Singapore from Indon- 16 per cent of foreign exchange

In his National Day speech the Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, said that in the first half of 1985, 27,800 jobs were lost in the construction sector, 11,200 in manufacturing, shipyards had lost 4.100 iobs while textile and electronics had together lost just under 5,000 jobs. Such labour reductions, un-

heard of in previous years, have continued. Officially declared bankruptcles rose by 20 per cent in the first eight months of 1985 while new company

The special committee chaired by Brigadier-General Lee Hsien

Loong has been asked to make recommendations to the govern-

neat aimed at aiding the

economic recovery and these

are likely to include some important new measures. What is at stake is Singa-

pore's ability to set itself back on a path to becoming a service-

on a path to becoming a service-centre by using some of its undoubted advantages over its neighbours in Asia. New doors will have to be opened such as trade with China, especially since neigh-bours like Malaysia and Indo-nesia have embarked on direct

nesia nave embarked on direct trade with the People's Repub-lic, cutting out Singapore's traditional role as middleman. The economic committee's re-

forms are likely to include a lowering of corporate taxation in a bid to attract foreign investment, and fatten up bank balances, a more flexible wage

bargaining system, less govern-ment interference in setting prices and a freer use of funds

to stimulate growth. Nearly 40 per cent of Singapore's gross

national product is tied up in savings. With foreign exchange reserves of around 25bn Singa-

industry.

The fundamentals will probably remain untouched, how-

and the second

Challenges ahead

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

ever, the case for loosening ever. The government's com-

government controls and allowing greater play to market which Mr Lee Kuan Yew perforces is gaining ground and some substantial changes are likely before the year is out.

The special committee chains

reserves of around 25bn Singapore dollars this leaves plenty of scope for manoeuvre.

More privatisation of industries is likely and although this has not been explicitly stated, less government funding of pore's problems and to tackle them. And, that is more than can be said for many government government to recognise Singapore's problems and to tackle them. And, that is more than

84 1983 registrations have fallen by 50

SINGAPORE'S RECENT RISE AND FALL

The so-called engines of economic growth in past years, oil refining and shipbuilding, have been particularly badly hit. Downturn in oil demand in Japan has been one reason for the refining slowdown in Singapore, Saudia Arabia and

In the first six months of 1985 the republic's refineries, which together constitute the thirst largest refining centre in the world, have been operating at only about 55 per cent of their installed capacity.
Singapore's shipbuiliding and

1983

per cent.

repair industry has suffered from the worldwide shipping slump and few see hope of any permanent recovery. Forecasts say that before any profitability can be achieved, up to 40 per cent of deck capacity will have to be closed, with the loss of a substantial amount of relatively recent investment.

Rig building and design has come to an almost complete standstill as exploration activities generally have dropped off and as Singapore's importance as a servicing centre for the oil industry in neighbouring Indonesia has declared.

Though work on a S\$5bn mass transit system is in full swing, the construction industry has gone into a deep slump. In the second quarter of 1985, con-struction activity declined by 15 period last year.

Construction of government financed public housing has peaked and with few large pri-

Already many industries have is an important ingredient in been forced to lay off workers. Singapore's economic health. But after a 5 per cent growth in tourism arrivals last year reaching nearly three million, there has been a slowdown in 1985: in the second quarter of the year total tourists arrivals went down by 0.6 per cent. While hotels and shops have

been forced to cut their rates and their profit margins substantially, high prices alone are not responsible for the drop off in the tourist industry. More disturbingly there is evidence that Singapore's attractions are

sonally regards as a pillar of the country's image as a stable and sound place to invest seems unshakeable "there is no

question of using the exchange rate to bring earnings down,"

There is unlikely to be,

some have urged, a cut in the

contribution by individuals and enterprises to the central pro-

vident fund, Singapore's com-pulsory savings scheme al-though the capital invested will

This reluctance to use some

of the more radical measures

available to stimulate exports

and bring about an improve-ment in productivity has al-ready produced some tension

between the technocrats in the

government and the old-time

political leadership. By the time the proposals for change

come out in December, how-

ever, all differences will be ironed out and the government

will present its customary, united face.

Whether all this will be enough to revive the economy

or whether more drastic measures will be needed later remains to be seen. The likeli-

hood is that the rosy days of double digit growth are gone

said one minister.

be put to better use.

Tourists complain it is now a duplicate of most other modern cities around the world. Govern-ment efforts to build "theme parks" and hold regular festival extravaganza are unlikely to have a great deal of impact

Affluence

Singapore's growth as a financial and business centre has not been up to earlier expectations and the economic downturn has had its effects. Value added by the financial and business services sector registered an annual growth rate of 2.3 per cent in the third quarter of 1985 compared to an 8.2 per cent growth in the same

period last year.

But in the midst of all this gloom and doom, Singapore hardly has the look of a country in crisis. Its port, the third buslest in the world, is still crammed with ships. Booking is essential at the more pricey restaurants. Immaculately preened and

affluent looking youngsters and yuppies parade down Orchard Road, the main shopping thoroughfare. While the Singa-pore dollar has been allowed to slide in value against most leading currencies, the Government moved decisively late in struction activity declined by 15 the year to counteract down-per cent, compared with an 18 ward speculation on its value. per cent growth in the same Traders got badly burnt as the monetary authority bought in large amounts of its own currency: any devaluation is firmly ruled out.

Singspore now has a per capita income well in excess of U.S.\$6.000 per year — higher than Spain or Greece and on par with Italy. Its affluence stands in stark contrast to its

Singapore has total reserves of U.S.\$10bn. Unofficially, the figure is said to be considerably higher. It has no debts, a highly developed infrastructure, an educated workforce and a relatively quiescent electorate.

While many small businesses have been hit, the crisis is still have been hit, the crisis is still largely at the theoretical stage for most Singaporeans. Foreign workers have cushioned the worst effects of the downturn: so far this year well over 50,000 Malaysians, Sri Lankans, Thais, Filipinos and to a lesser extent South Koreans have been

"We (Singaporeans) are nowe (Singaporeans) are no-where near having an unemploy-ment problem in Singapore," says Mr Daniel Selvaretnam of the Singapore Economic De-velopment Board. But gradu-ally, Singaporean themselves are likely to feel the pinch of the new economic realities.

The government, which has exercised an overwhelming influence on both economic and political development, has fluence on both economic and political development, has already served notice that its policy of encouraging high wages rewards is under review. The Prime Minister argues that Singapore is pricing itself out of business: in recent years wages have been going up by 10 per cent a year and now are almost twice the level of those in Hong Kong, a key competitor, set for a 4.5 per cent overall economic growth this year.

Now is the time, it is argued, for a more flexible, pragmatic approach to wages. "We should not force wages down. What we need is wage restraint or a pause in wage increases," says Mr Lee. In future, the influence of the National Wages Council, which has recommended across the board annual wage increases, will diminish.

While talk of wage restraint is unlikely to bring Singapore economy also found itself badly out of breath, rather fat and flabby and not entirely sure of the right direction.

cause alarm. At the moment, entirely sure of the right the Government is putting direction.

old Singapore has been a special economic committee knocked down.

Tourists complain it is now a and industry defence. Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong, is due to make its recommend-ations before the end of the

The Government is seriously concerned about a downturn in new investment, especially from overseas. New incentives, in-cluding a drop in corporation tax, are likely to be announced, In the first eight months of 1985 total new investment was down by 30 per cent on the same period in 1984, at \$\$800m. Japanese and EEC investment dropped particularly sharply resulting, says the Government, in an overdependence on the

The Covernment plans to give more incentive and direction to the so-called sunrise industries which it is hoped will usher

which it is hoped will usher in a new period of economic growth — biotech, genetic engineering, medical supplies. "Unless companies can operate more profitably in Singapore than in our competitor countries, particularly the other newly industrialising countries, existing companies will be forced to relocate and the new high technology comwill be forced to relocate and the new high technology com-panies that we desire to have will not come here," a report of the economic committee says.

More cash is also likely to be pumped into the economy: the Government has ample resources, especially through the central provident fund—a mandatory retirement savings scheme to which employees and employers each contribute 25 per cent of gross pay. But will these measures be enough? Singapore certainly still has a lot going for it.

U.S.\$6,000 per year — higher than Spain or Greece and on par with Italy. Its affluence stands in stark contrast to its neighbouring Asean countries, its problems seem minute by comparison.

Singular Control of the going for it.

It has lost none of the geographical advantages from the days when Raffles first stepped ashore in 1819. It is a vital entrepot, perched on one of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

Servicing centre

It has further potential to develop as a major servicing centre of the ASEAN countries. centre of the ASEAN countries, and to play a pivotal role in the development of a region seen as one of the galvanising forces of world trade over the next ten years. Generally, it has laid the foundations for future growth: Singapore's very size makes it easily manouevrable, able to adjust quickly to the incress.

adjust quickly to the increasingly volatile patterns of world trade and of the global economy.

"Now the talk is all of problems. But we could be having a completely different conversation in two years time." one analyst said. But there are uncertainties. Serious problems could arise if investment does not pick up.

Local companies often seem unwilling to put money into the domestic economy, even when they are holding fat reserves. The younger generation of Singaporean businessmen seem



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A suitable case of natural selection

LEE KUAN YEW, Singapore's "You cannot," prime minister, believes that the success of a society will depend, in the long run, on the quality of its genes—among other things. This is a belief "he must also want it and he must also want it and he which is bound to have been must grasp it." reinforced by his own Few people have accused the experience and, in particular, Prime Minister of nepotism in the case of his eldest son Lee Hsien Loong, whose meteoric rise to power is due at least as much to his own abilities as to the fact that he is the prime minister's son.

In the few short months due to his own efforts. since his election to parliament course being the prime minis-in December 1984, Hsien Loong has enjoyed almost as spec-handicap and there is no doubt has enjoyed almost as spec-tacular a rise as he did in his tacular a rise as he did in his previous incarnation in Singapore's small but perfectly formed armed forces. There he went from being commanding officer of an artillery battalion to chief of the general staff in the space of four short years.

He is now barely 33 and a junior minister with two important portfolios: defence where the prime minister wants his son to end up in due course. But the son is genuinely capable."

More important, some observers see Hsien Loong as one of the few young politicians in the PAP with a genuine flair for politics. With the exception of the prime minister wants his son to end up in due course. But the son is genuinely capable."

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Section (VE)

and trade and industry. More important he has been given the key job of overseeing the work of a specially appointed economic committee to look into Singapore's economic options for the future. The job places Hsien Loong at the eye of the economic storm which has broken over Singa-pore and therefore also in the

centre of the stage.

Inevitably he is being talked of as a candidate for the leader-ship of the Ruling People's public Action Party (PAP) and a Haryard.

the prime minister is likely to remain in control for some years to come. Nevertheless, in the past few months the soldier-turned-politician has been given an unusually high profile in the Singapore press and television and he must be regarded as a legitimate con-tender for the leadership.

Height Long himself seems father's utopian view of what unpretentiously aware of his own potential. "If people think I'm fit for the job," he said in an interview, "and I'm the elections last December the control of the people than the control of the said in an interview, "and I'm the elections last December the control of the control in line, I think that's good. If they have doubts about me and I'm still in line then that's a

very big problem." He is anxious to dispel the notion that he is being groomed Although he believes that for the job and that it will, in there is nothing uniquely Singatime, simply fall into his lap. porean in this he says the

promoting his son although most people agree that the pace of Hsien Loong's advancement is extraordinary. "Nevertheless if he's got where he is," said a diplomat, "it's largely

important portfolios: defence Singapore is ruled by techno-and trade and industry. More crats who execute rather than important he has been given apprehension about what happens when Lee Kuan Yew disappears from the scene along with his political skills.

Master's degree

Hsien Loong is undoubtedly bright. He took a first in, mathematics at Cambridge University and later went on to take a master's degree in administration

future prime minister.

The talk of succession is premature. Apart from the fact that Hsien Loong is so young, other PAP leaders he has been coached in the arts of public speaking and debate by imported media specialists from Britain although he remains slightly stiff in public. Hsien Loong says Singapore must deal with the world "as it is and not as we would like to be." In what some have taken as implied criticism of his father's utopian view of what the island-state could become

He concedes that the Government has become unpopular. The elections last December when the opposition captured more than 33 per cent of the some discontent, some concern. some unease over policies. . . ."
Although he believes that



Lee Hslen Loong, eldest se of Prime Minister Lee:

said a diplomat, "it's largely due to his own efforts. Of course being the prime minister's son was not exactly a handicap and there is no doubt where the prime minister wants his son to end up in due course. But the son is genuinely capable."

Despite his differences from the older generation of Singapore's leaders, however—"what his wrong with having fun," he once asked—he shares some of their more paternalistic attitudes. In particular, his father's obsession with natural selection.

There are two significant aspects to this little vignette. The first is that the taxi drivers demonstrated at all and, of all Government must work harder deserted

> committed to open market economic policies than some of Singapore's older leaders and professes to have no ideo-logical preconceptions. He would like to see less government control of the economy and more industries privatised.

Hsien Loong, although pro-fessing firm commitment to the idea of one man one vote, sees idea of one man one vote, sees limits to the degree of demo-cracy that is good for Singapore. He believes an opposition must be "plausible, reasonable and sensible." The population, he says, must be educated not to vote tactically by which he means against a government as opposed to for the opposition.
What Singapore is looking
for, he says, is a system "where grievances can be aired; aspirations brought out and hopes communicated. I believe we've got that," But he concedes that there is also firm

Hsien Loong, is, in many ways, his father's ideal Singaporean: academically successful ambitious. Although he may have to wait until the present second generation leadership has a crack at the top job after the prime minister his chances of getting there must be better

· Alain Cass

The PAP reaches a crossroads

Politics ALAIN CASS

EARLIER THIS year Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew returned from an official visit to Indonesia. When he landed at Singapore's clinically efficient Changi airport he was greeted by hundreds of taxi drivers hooting their horns at

him.
The drivers were angry because their customers had deserted them after the Government had doubled taxi

Observers say he has become more serious since assuming people, against the prime minister who is beginning to acquire due to the fact that he was recently widowed.

Philosophically he seems more committed to open market market than same of the fact than the

The second intriguing aspect of the event was that the Government backed down. Mr Lee's sense of moral rectitude is legendary and his Govern-ment is not known for giving into pressure-least of all noisy, public pressure. So why did

to the answer lies in last has given the Government some heart—is the most voters voted marked a turning point in Singapore's political history. For the first time since the ruling People's Action Party came to power in 1959 the life under the ruling party. opposition gained a major share of the vote.

The PAP's share of the vote fell from 75.5 per cent in 1980 to 62.9 per cent—a swing against the Government of more than 13 per cent. At the same Jeyaratnam, the first ever dent time the main opposition par-ties captured over 33 per cent fluke.

of the votes cast. A second MP was elected from the Worker's sufficiently shaken out of its branches" as first deputy prime Party to the 79-seat assembly complacency to take a critical minister Goh Chok Tong calls and, while this hardly constitutes a mortal danger to the PAP, it does, for the first time, seriously dent its aura of invincibility.

It could have been worse. The Workers' Party also polled more than 40 per cent of the vote in four other seats. Considering that most of their candidates and those of the other two serious connections in the narty because of the narty becau other two serious opposition parties—the Singapore Demo-cratic Party and the Singapore United Front-were inexperienced and, in many cases, mediocre, the PAP must be considered lucky that they contested for fewer than the total number of seats.

However, while Mr Lee bestrides his tiny stage like a colossus and the calibre of the opposition remains poor the chances of a major upset are

Сопсет

Nevertheless, there is some concern among PAP leaders, especially the younger ones, that the party did get out of touch with its popular base and that a number of the more un-popular measures introduced before the elections might have been withheld if the Govern-ment had had its finger on the pulse of popular opinion more firmly.

What seems clear-and this

It is too early to say whether Singapore's political awakening is an irreversible trend. Certainly it confirms that the byelection victory in 1981 in the Anson constituency of Mr Ben

The PAP has certainly been is a freak win by the opposition in response to a deepening economic recession and un-

The PAP has ruled Singapore virtually without constraint for nearly 20 years. But just as 1961 witnessed a basic change in the party because of the split between the communists and their fellow travellers, on the one hand, and the more moderate democratic socialists, on the other, in order to prepare for a more genuinely multi-racial party so 1984 could turn out to be an equally im-portant turning point.

Last December's results coincided with and gave impetus to an attempt by the old guard in the party to trans-fer power to their chosen and younger successors.

Mr Lee's determination to push through a self-renewal policy, however necessary, has provoked some dissension within the party. Party veterans who had served the PAP for duced.

This process, which began as far back as 1972, has been re-lentless. Young men and women deemed to be suitable are picked, fielded at the general election and, soon after, propelled into high office. In-cumbent MPs have been cast aside to make room for the new guard.

In the 1984 general election the PAP fielded 26 first-timers, its biggest ever number of new recruits, among them Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong the prime minister's son. Hsien Loong has since been given three important government posts and is being openly talked about as a future prime mini-

This process of complarency to take a critical minister Goh Chok Tong calls look at itself in the hope of it, has been partly in response preventing what some senior to the fact that a new genera-figures fear could happen which tuon of voters whose actions are the PAP came to power after in 1959 and have grown up without the knowledge or memory of the early political struggles and difficult times. have, therefore, greater

expectations. In 1984 first time voters aged between 21 and 24 years old numbered 215,000 or 14 per cent of the electorate. The need to meet the aspirations of this rapidly changing political base is one of the biggest challenges facing the PAP in coming years.

Grievances

Since the elections the Gov-erament has been anxious to demonstrate its concern for people's grievances. In a typically institutionalised way a "feedback unit" was set up to encourage the public to com-plain. Local newspapers have been encouraged to print letters attacking the bureauyears were summarily over-looked for higher political ser-vice as fresh blood was intro-cucouraged to "listen to the encouraged to "listen to the

At a different level, Singapore is pressing ahead with its plans to remould the political system around the fact that the prime minister is close to retirement age. Mr Lee has said he will step down at the age of 65—he is now 62—and that he wants a smooth and orderly succession.

Constitutional amendments are now being framed and will eventually be put to Parliament. These will allow for an elected President with some executive powers, primarily to prevent a

The new presidential system will effectively ensure that Mr Lee, like the Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, retains effective control of the country's major unpredictable has emerged, policy decisions when he is These young voters were born elevated to the presidency. This, in itself, is bound to change the balance of power within the Government and, possibly, the nature of democracy in Singa-

> When this happens the major question will be: who succeeds Mr Lee? The front-runner must be the present first deputy prime minister Mr Gob Chok Tong who has hinted that when Mr Lee vacates his present office a new style of leadership, less dogmatic, less paternalistic, may take its place.

> This seems doubtful, partly because Mr Lee himself will be still very much a force to be reckoned with and partly because most of his colleagues share his view that Singapore had to remain a morally robust society if it is to survive.

> The preferred scenario the future is that the constitutional changes will be in for within two years and that, shortly before the next General Election—which has to take place by 1988 but which tra-ditionally comes a year earlier -Mr Lee will step down as PAP leader and prime minister and submit himself as Singapore's first elected President.

His son, Lee Hsien Loong, is being increasingly talked of as a future prime minister. But it seems unlikely that he will succeed his father immediately. A more likely bet is Mr Goh or possibly one of his rivals who would lead the PAP into next election and that Histori Loong would get his chance sometime after that .

Between now and then, how-ever, the PAP acknowledges future government going on a that it has to work hard to make spending spree which depletes up lost ground, let alone reverse the country's vast reserves a trend which could, if it continues, produce a major upset the future. tal to the country's external in the future.

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Confidence takes a knock

Manufacturing KIERAN COOKE

IN LATE 1985 Lamipak Industries, a local Singapore company, was forced to call in the liquidators. Like many other companies around the world the recession had finally caught up. With debts estimated at \$\$150m, cash flow problems just became too difficult to bear. In Singapore the news created a small sensation. Lamipak, which has plastic packaging operations in Singapackaging operations in Singa-pore and several other coun-tries, had been seen as some-thing of a model company, often cited as one of the Re-public's most innovative and successful concerns. public's most inno successful concerns.

Confidence is everything in Singapore and with the not so reputable and the good alike going to the wall, the present downturn has severely shaken faith in the resilience and resourcefulness of the economy. While the construction sector has taken the brunt in terms of job losses—in the second quarter of 1985 alone more than 43,000 jobs were lost in the industry—manufacturing has also been hurt and many thousands of jobs lost as out-put has declined by 8.3 per cent compared with the second

more than 50 per cent of foreign exchange earnings. More than 27 per cent of Singapore's 1.2m workforce are employed in manufacturing. Over the last two years growth in the sector has been healthy, siderable growth in world de-mand, particularly in the

ronics companies have substantial production facilities in Singapore: the Republic is now singapore: the Republic is now frequently referred to as Silicon Island. Output has become increasingly diverse and sophisticated. "Singapore now hovers at the bottom end of Silicon Valley, somewhere above Taiwan and South Korea but behind western Europe in terms of electronics know how and technology" said an and technology" industry analyst.

But as demand abroad has But as demand abroad has dropped off, electronics production at home has had to be phased down. In the second quarter of 1985 output went down by 7.1 per cent compared with the first quarter of the year. More than 8,000 jobs were lost. The industry is now searing itself up for the move into other areas of higher technology which, it is hoped, will nology which, it is hoped, will provide salvation in the years ahead. The buzz words and phrases that fall from the lips of Singapore's planners indicate that the future has already arrived: the talk now is of robotics, genetic engineering, artificial intelligence, informa-

Already, the Government has made substantial investments in a whole range of educational programmes designed to feed these new industries, and the planners are confident that their efforts will be rewarded. "If, out of five sectors we move into cent compared with the second quarter of 1984.

The manufacturing sector is looked on as the prime mover of the economy: it contributes about 20 per cent of GDP and industry to bounce back immediately. Meanwhile other major industries such as petrochemicals and shipbuilding have seriously declined.

tics and blo-technology.

Until recently both industries provided the main stimulus to

third largest refining centre. workers in the industry, mostly weaponry and is said to be with a total installed capacity of foreign nationals have lost ing increasing challenges l.lm barrels a day. Shell has their jobs. arms suppliers like Israel almost half the total installed U.S. consultants commis-

in demand, particularly in Japan, for fuel oils but also by the increased self sufficiency in refining of producer countries. Singapore has traditionally refined crudes from Saudi Arabia and Indonesia. Large petrochemical complexes in Saudi Arabia are now coming on stream; over the last eighteen mouths three large refineries have been inaugurated in Indonesia. The result has been a big drop in processing contracts, with overall utilisation of existing facilities, plus some retrenchments is the answer. The Prime Minister biames both managers and workers for acting irrationally—pressing for higher pay awards as profits have declined in recent years. Mr Lee refuses to countenance the idea that the shippards are sunset industry. Harking back to the vision of Raffles he says: "We have the advantage of special location. We are astride one of the major shipping lanes in the world... we a big drop in processing con-tracts, with overall utilisation of installed capacity dropping down to 55 per cent. Many say

further plant closures are inevitable.

meyitable.

But the outlook is not entirely bleak: in the past Singapore's refining industry has shown itself to be remarkably flexible and able to find alternative supply sources and markets. Growth in related markets. Growth in related areas, such as chemicals and glass manufacture has been encouraging. There has also been a flurry of processing contracts: China and Australia both signed contracts for processing 100,000 b/d till the end of the year. Troubles with Indonesia's refinery startup programme refinery start-up programme have resulted in some continued processing of Indonesian crudes in Singapore. Contracts have

executive. employed in manufacturing.

Over the last two years growth in the sector has been healthy, if not entirely up to expectations. Last year overall output rose by 9 per cent compared with only 2 per cent in 1983. The electronics industry has been the star performer. Last year its output expanded by 20 per cent in 1983 by 20

capacity and is a key element in sioned to look at the prospects the overall health of the of Singapore's yards are economy. When the company announced in mid-year it was a drastic reduction in capacity, permanently closing one of its four main refining plants, cocer was raised about the whole future of the refining industry in Singapore.

Singapore

sioned to look at the prospects to look at the prospects are reported to have recommended a drastic reduction in capacity, including the complete closure of two yards at Keppel Ship-ard, 68 per cent government owned.

The government seems reluc-

in Singapore.

The refining industry has been hit not only by a decrease in demand, particularly in Japan, for fuel oils but also by retrenchments is the answer. ping lanes in the world ... have the competitive edge.

While Singapore's importance as a shipbuilding centre has declined it has rapidly become a hub of the aerospace industry in the region. More than 20 companies serwicing the industry in one way or another now have facilities in the Republic, Again, facilities in the Republic, Again, good local conditions including one of the world's finest airports and a highly skilled workforce, have been Singapore's main attractions. Nearly 4,500 people are now employed in aerospace and the industry's output last year went up 19 per cent to \$\$457m.

Alied to the aerospace industry is Singapore's erosping

dustry is Singapore's growing importance as a servicing centre and manufacturer of military equipment. It ready services Skyhawk jets and Hercules transport planes. It does similar work on armoured personnel carriers and tanks. Through the state owned Sheng Li company Singapore manufacture machine guns, launchers, a wide bombs and ammunition and various other equipment. While no figures are available, it has clearly built itself up into one of the more important ex-porters of conventional weaponry and is said to be posarms suppliers like Israel and

Foreign workers feel the pinch

Labour

SINGAPORE MAY be suffering

ment is not one of them. While thousands of workers

of chronic unemployment, Singa-pore has been concerned that

singapore has projected that the island state's total workforce will grow from 1.12m in 1980 to 1.34m in 1995. At the same time, the percentage of young people joining the labour force has been declining while, with eliminated by the mid-seventies. Today, Singapore employs some 150,000 foreign workers to

porarily.

Singapore's economy is further apart.

Singapore's economy is The third reason—and this historically founded on foreign applies to professional classes shown that foreign workers labour and, for the foreseable and the highly skilled—is to the better educated than third third third third third third third the professional classes.

Singapore has encouraged rights. workers into the island state for three reasons over the past

the Government from facing permanent pool of expertise. despite the country's vast efforts the spectre of mass unemploy. Such immigrants are encourment of its citizens which aged to make their home in Economic restructuring in the spectre of mass unemploy-ment of its citizens which normally accompanies a pro-Singapore and, in time, may Singapore and, in time, may Singapore means a shift away even be offered citizenship from the unskilled and towards

the restrictions placed on managerial workers. This unskilled workers are severe applies to both foreign and and, in some cases, demeaning.
The Government's policy, simply will not do some of the however, is to phase out the menial, production and country's dependance on undomestic jobs which have to be skilled foreign workers by the done. end of the decade. By that time

the skilled and highly qualified applies to both foreign and local labour.

In the view, therefore, of some observers the present some observers the present round of bloodletting may not be a bad thing for Singapore, where the economy has been stuck in the middle-technology

groove for too long. So far this year well over 50,000 Malaysians, Sri Lankans, Filipinos and South Koreans have been sent home. The labour force has been reduced in those sectors which have either become uncompetitive because of Singapore's high wages policy (manufacturing); have fallen foul of the local slump (construction); or are suffering from the slowdown in

external demand (electronics). The Government is fortunate, in this respect, in having a controlled union sector which, if anything, appears to be getting less, militant. There is wide-

pore is to allocate its scarce resources in such a way as to reduce its dependance on low-productivity, foreign-labour in-tensive industries to much

of Singaporeans have also lost imperative as even more valid similar per capita incomes such their jobs — however tem- as wages and productivity grow as Spain or Brazil this is still further apart. Singapore's economy is The third reason—and this Recent studies have also

ALAIN CASS

from a number of economic problems but mass unemploy-

have lost their jobs in the recesfrom the vast pool of foreign labour which underpins the economy and which the Government can use conveniently to cushion its own people from the worst effects of a slowdown worst effects of a slowdown.
Indeed, while the industrialised West is grappling with the social and political consequences

its workforce may not expand fast enough to keep pace with its economic growth over the next decade. Professor Saw Swee Hock of the National University of Singapore has projected that the

better medical services and rising standards of living, the rising standards of living, the population as a whole is ageing. From a position of high unemployment in the 1950s and early 1960s—at its peak in 1962 over 15 per cent of the workforce was out of work—Singapore quickly tackled the problem as growth rates shot into double figures. By 1970 unemployment was reduced to 6 per ployment was reduced to 6 per cent and had been virtually

some 150,000 foreign workers to fill the gap.

Last year, according to the Government, the Employment Service registered 12,258 job seekers against 25,632 vacancies. Of course that was before the present savage recession in which around 50,000 foreign workers have been summarily sent home and a smaller number

Labour force-projections

Year	Total	Male	Female
1980	1.115m	720,606	385,352
1985	1.224m	815,426	409,351
1990	1.296m	879,785	416,409
1995	1.342m	928,292	413,752
1994		periore 1990-2020	

rates, of the "economic miracle," has been to raise expectations to a level where, for most Singaporeans, being a maid or a building worker is virtually unthinkable. Besides which, the country's predomination. which, the country's predomin-antly Chinese population regards making money by going into business as the only honourable occupation.

ing a controlled inflow of foreigners is to "spar" local workers to do better. "There is nothing like the bitter, reallife experience of having to hunt for a job," Mr Goh Chok Tong, the first deputy prime minister says, echoing words which would have done Mrs Thatcher proud. "And finding it difficult to get ome to make singaporeans take seriously the stime to come. This view is underlined by the fact that, although Singapore is underlined by the fact that, although Singapore is made great strides in professional expertise of its citizens, many are still in relatively unskilled jobs. If they will have to take their place. Up to 40 per cent of Singaporeans are in production jobs and out of those around 90 per The second reason for allow-

The effect of high growth the Government hopes that ates, of the "economic automation will have replaced antomation will have replaced most routine production jobs and that the island state's basic infrastructure will be

Many, however, doubt that spread concern that member-this utopian vision of a society characterised by skilled and controlled National Trade Union professional workers is a realistic one and believe that Singapore will continue to need low-level foreign workers for some time to come.

This view is underlisted.

Thatcher proud. "And finding it difficult to get one to make poreans are in production jour singaporeans take seriously the and out of those around 90 per the nee call to increase productivity." cent would be unskilled. By skilled comparison to countries with labour.

higher productivity, high-technology sectors.

This would have the effect of reducing overall labour demand and increase the domestic labour supply and thus reduce the need for other than highly skilled or professional foreign

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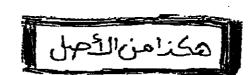
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Changes ahead on deregulation

market slump in Singapore, entrepreneurs, now a buzz word there had been hopes that the in recession-struck Singapore. market would regain some of its lost sparkle in 1985. So far there has been no dazzling per-formance and for most of the year Singapore has remained near the bottom of the world

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Persistently weak share prices have also meant that in terms of market capitalisation Singapore has had to concede the number two slot in the Far East to Hong Kong.
In line with poor sentiment,

the number of new entrants has dwindled, falling from an already low 11 newcomers in 1984—of which just six were Singapore companies and the rest Malaysian—to just eight so far this year, none of which is Singapore-incorporated.

stampede to raise funds from the market: only three Singa-pore companies made a rights issue in the first six months of this year compared with six companies for the whole of last

All these figures do is reflect the economic downturn. But as the republic faces its first major economic crunch in 20 years it has been forced into much soul searching. As part of the work being done under the economic committee, headed by Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong, bankers, brokers and policy makers have been examining the entire securities industry in an effort to see how it can be expanded, modernised and made

more efficient. Although their final deliberations are not going to be known until later in the year, it is obvious that the securities team plans to use this opportunity to pinpoint the weakness in the current market and recommend address is how to improve the sufficient changes to allow the market's depth and breadth, stock market to become an Large investors complain that

a good chance of success. After years of talk about the need for some kind of innion of the success. some kind of junior stock-market, the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Economic Development Board announced fifth of the total market capital-in September that it was plan- isation is traded at any one But the conflict appears to

young companies who cannot erratic and illic meet the Stock Exchange of mon complaint.

AFTER LAST year's stock quirements and ought to help Little has been decided yet about the proposed Unlisted Securities Market. But one telling detail was revealed when the plan was officially announced. Banks and other

> allowed to deal directly on the second securities market, signalling the end of the monopoly held by local broking firms on the stock exchange. Just what it will mean even-tually for share dealing on the

Stock Market LORETTE McLAUGHLAN

main market is anyone's guess at this stage. But it demon-strates that Singapore is aware

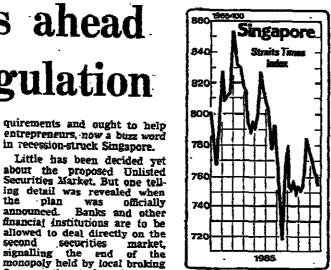
phenomenon. Pressure to up-grade local broking houses and investment. systems comes not so much from Sister exchange in Kuala Local fund management has Local fund management has sister exchange in Kuala rant way partly because the exchange in Kuala sistence of the compulsory state. Not only has Kuala Lumpur

already taken the volume lead at times this year but it has taken all the initiative in what officials call "corporatisation" of brokerage firms. Consequently, the rule which prohibits financial institutions from taking a stake in a Singapore stockbroking company is likely to be rethought.

Another big problem which integral part in developing there is a shortage of big, Singapore as a financial centre, tradable blue chips—notwith-

in September that it was plating to establish an unlisted time as the bulk of the stock have been resolved by putting securities market, using London's USM as a model, in the second balf of next year.

It should come as a relief to price movements can often be Securities Industry Act can be price movements can often be securities and illegalders.



versed in stockmarket matters and is used to dealing himself. usually through a remisier, a middle man who splits the broking commission with the broking firm which provides his office space. The fact that there were 676 remisiers at the last count indicates the force of the private punter in Singapore. At the same time there is an s anyone's guess obvious shortage of domestic But it demon-institutional investors to provide what one fund manager calls a market keel. That in turn of the need to develop its mar-ket-making capabilities in line contributes to the overseas inwith major financial capitals.

Stitutional view that Singapore
Deregulation is no distinct is more of a short-term trading market than a long-term one for

> Central Provident Fund, leaves no room for pension funds. The upshot of all the self-examination is that the rules and regulations are likely to be overhauled. A draft amendment to the Securities Industry Act was already being prepared when the Economic Committee's securities team got down to business. Prepared independ-ently from the securities team, the original version of the draft met with stiff opposition from

the broking community. According to brokers, the draft appeared to give the MAS greater powers to control and monitor the industry which has been largely self-regulatory. It also seemed to be beading for collision with the spirit of duct. It is impossible to be exact liberalisation emanating from but it is thought that only a the Economic Committee's

price movements can often be Securities Industry Act can be erratic and illiquidity is a common complaint. ing an effective framework for the man in the street is well-

Co-operative deals with China increase

Trade and foreign investment

KIERAN COOKE

SINCE THE foundation of modern Singapore trade has been central to its survival. When export growth took a dive this year, the rest of the economy plunged down with it. In 1984 Singapore's exports (including re-exports) swelled by 11 per cent to reach a value of \$\$51.3bn. Estimates for export growth this year vary between I per cent and 3.5 per cent total trade in the first eight months of 1985 fell 3 per cent to \$\$73bn compared with the same period last year, mainly due to a decline in immorts. by Il per cent to reach a value

mainly one to a decline in imports.

The trade deficit has narrowed this year—from \$56.620n in August 1984 to \$34.960n in the same month last year. Re-exports, which account for just under 40 per cent of total exports have generally performed better than domestic exports in recent months. So exports in recent months. So far this year they have grown by a healthy 5 per cent. While repercussions throughout the economy, causing alarm among even the most bullish of Singapore's supporters, in comparison with many countries the outlook is hardly all gloom.

Singapore has had it very good in recent years. Some would argue that last year's causing severe distoradding to present troubles. In future it is felt Singapore should try to achieve a more measured but prolonged growth in its trade.

Distortions

It still remains in a very favourable trading position: its port is the third busiest in the and its external trade accounts for more than three times its gross domestic pro-

Last year trade contributed 15 per cent to GDP growth. With practically no resources and only two and a half million people it ranks in terms of total trade equal to Spain and only just below South Korea.

Singapore's leading trading nartners are the United States, ing. Malaysia, Japan and the EEC. It

for the pause in trading growth.

In each of the past two years the U.S. has surpassed Malaysia in Singapore's total trade. In 1984 the surplus in trade with the U.S. was \$1.4bn—the first time Singapore has had a trade surplus with a major trading partner since 1969.

Exports to the U.S. last year were worth \$10.29bn-up 23 per cent on 1983. A lot of the growth has come from various computer and electronic equipment, in particular home con puters—a large proportion of which are produced by the many U.S. electronic multi-nationals with operations in Singapore.

Export growth to the U.S. in 1985 is likely to be more than halved. Total trade with Japan dropped 9 per cent in the quarter of 1985, mainly due to a sharp drop in imports. Generally, say traders, things are the worst they have been for some years. However, overall figures would look very different if very large earnings

on invisibles were included. One analyst calculates that in terms of net invisible earnings Singapore now ranks fifth in the world. These are not only comprised of banking and finan-cial services: Singapore has been very successful in selling its expertise and services to the developing world. Port and airport management, plant operation and management, tourist industry services have al! made a substantial contri-bution to export earnings.

In addition, as its refining industry has declined, Singapore has built itself up into an oil trading centre. It hopes to be just as important an oil trading centre as New York: already majors like Mobil, Shell and Exxon are doing considerable business.

The Government is taking steps to alleviate the difficult trading circumstances. It is likely that wages will go up much more gradually than in the past: there is also a move towards greater productivity — South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong all have considerably higher productivity levels than

Singapore at present.
In the past Singapore has shown its flexibility by moving into new product lines: now it hopes to change again into areas of higher technology like sophisticated medical supplies, robotics and genetic engineer-

Malaysia, Japan and the EEC. It is also looking at new growth of Singapore's trade to secure markets in those The downturn in demand in the markets. The great hope for the u.S. and, to a lesser extent, in future is China. In September, moment, Singapore is making ignored.

Japan has been the main cause Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew made an extensive tour of China during which he constantly emphasised the benefits to both his country and China of increased trade and business.

> Several possible areas of cooperation were mentioned. "They are all attainable, Proposals like tourism, mutual co-operation in civil aviation, communications are practical, implementable." said Mr Lee, At present the two countries

have no diplomatic relations -Singapore says it will not normalise till Indonesia and China resume diplomatic conbetween the two have been steadily growing. Singapore plans to have trading offices in Shanghai and Canton as well as the present one in Peking before the end of next year.

Co-operation

China's state oil corporation, Sinochem, has recently opened an office in Singapore—a sign of the growing co-operation between the two countries in

the oil sector. China now ranks as Singapore's seventh largest trading partner with two way trade valued at \$83.4bn in 1984. Singaporean companies have been active in China for some time, particularly in the hotel and tourism industries and in civil engineering projects in-cluding port development. cluding port developm Singaporean investment China is now estimated to

exceed S\$1bn. There are other reasons for Singapore's optimism about the future of China trade: China has shown a growing desire for Singaporean participation in a number of major deals and something of a special relationship has developed, fostered not only by racial ties but also by common use of the man-darin language.

The architect of Singapore's economic success over the past 20 years, Dr Goh Keng Swee, has himself become a vital export item having been recruited as an adviser to China's ambitious programme of special economic zones. He is likely to preach the Singapore gospel loud and clear and in so doing it is hoped gain more business for the people

back home. India is another much touted target for the future

expertise in oil exploration, servicing and supply. Its shipyards, stuck with excess capacity and empty order orders: there is even talk of active in overseas markets. Singapore and India collaborating on rig building for to the Soviet Union.

Loosening of trade restrictions in India has brought about a big surge in Singapore's exports; in 1984 exports to India went up by more than 50 per cent to S\$1.3bn, mostly made up of machinery, electropic goods and manufactured items.

tion. Singaporean entre-preneurs like Jack Chia already own large tracts of real estate own large traces of real estate in Melbourne, Perth and other cities. They have also moved into other areas, mainly hotels or leisure related.

Australia now ranks as Singapore's eighth largest market: last year exports increased by 29 per cent to \$\$1.75bn. Both countries have expressed the wish for greater co-operation and the formation of more joint ventures. Parts of Africa Latin America and closer to home, Burma, are other areas targeted for future trading

Few believe that these new markets offer an instant panacea for all Singapore's trading problems. First, there has to be a change in the mix of Singa-pore's exports, allied to more sustained if lower demand in the U.S., Japan and Europe.

A banker described talk of a massive expansion in China trade as misleading and falsely optimistic: Singapore has come late to the China trade game. and European countries.

China is now facing severe financial constraints after heavy imports in recent years. At present it is unlikely to offer any big trading stimulus to Singapore, However, hopes still run high, "China is big enough for everybody," said the Trade Development Board "There are over 400,000 factories there, all waiting to be upgraded. Singa-pore can do a lot."

There are also some uncer tainties about the ability of Singapore business to respond to the new circumstances. There are still only a few Singapore and India collaborating on rig building for export pames, cushioned by largely Government sponsored growth in the home market, have not been sufficiently competitive or

Most money invested abroad tends to go into property rather than industrial joint ven-While South Kores. Taiwan and Hong Kong have been pushing new investments into countries like Indonesia. The Australian market is Singapore seems content to sit also receiving increasing atten- on much of its capital. In the last five years Singapore has dropped from number 10 to 15 in the list of foreign investors

As neighbouring countries gear up their economies, the gear up their economies, the challenge becomes even greater. Indonesia has in the past three years become the world's biggest plywood exporter; the result has been the almost total elimination of Singapore's plywood industry and the loss of an important export item.

Rearguard action

As protectionist sentiment grows, trade is not going to become easier; some countries are already questioning whether certain Singapore exports should continue to be given preferential treatment under the generalised scheme of pre-ferences (GSP). At present Singapore receives GSP treat-ment from 16 countries.

Earlier this year New Zealand threatened to discontinue some aspects of the scheme: it later capitulated after a fierce rearguard action by Singapore, With a per capita income well over US\$6,000, Singapore will in future find it increasingly difficult to win the GSP

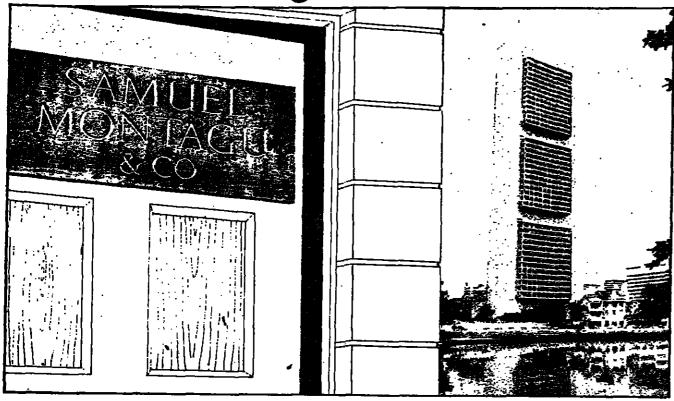
Singapore is about to embark on its third industrial revoluwhen the growth of modern-day Singapore was set in motion. The second was in the late 70s as the Republic moved into new industries, particularly electronics. Now it faces Neither India nor Australia another change of direction as are in the best of economic health and Singapore will obviously have to work very hard to work very hard biotechnology. Whether or not biotechnology. Whether or not the change is successful will be crucial to its future prosperity.

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Vital hub links East and West

Telecoms

JOYCE QUEK

SINGAPORE'S Telecommunications Authority of Singapore does not share the doom and gloom other enterprises project for 1985.

This is its year of living dangerously, advancing into more, better and cheaper services. Yet it does not sacrifice quality and, more importantly for a reserve accumulating government, profits.

It is already in the forefront It is already in the forefront of technology, scoring numerous firsts in innovation and enterprise. Soon words like Teleview, ISDN (Integrated System Digital Network) and CMRS (Cellular Mobile Radio System) will be as familier to the public as to Telecoms' forward-looking management looking management.

It is confident of staying profitable while slashing rates across the board and spending more money than ever.

Direct overseas calls and telexes join its domestic subscription rates (unchanged for 14 years) as one of the lowest in the world, thanks to a second round of rate cuts second round of rate cuts

Businessmen suffering from the economic downturn benefit most from cuts of up to 41 per cent for IDD, 23 per cent for international telexes, 53 per cent for telephone extensions, 52 per cent for pagers and 83 per cent for modems.

Through economies of scale,

cost savings mean lower rates for users and a potential loss of \$55m for Telecoms which gamble on offsetting it by the

rates. Traffic rose but the never-satisfied authority called the

From its reserves, S\$1,000m develop its own system.

Telecoms has no pretensions someholin fixed deposits and S\$10m in By the early 1990s, a user as to its role, but many envisage priate.

spare cash, it will commit \$83.15bn to make Singapore an international communications centre.

It has managed to give more for less through an astute policy of banking on the future by spending billions on the latest technology. Yet it prac-tically guarantees the Govern-ment \$\$47m in dividends annually.

Thus its optical fibre network stretches across the island, forging the way to better stateof the art equipment. The marvellous optic fibre, thin as hair, transmits signals 100 times faster yet save \$35m over the conventional copper cables.

While every conversation requires a pair of copper cables, 300,000 telephone channels need but one optical fibre. And this is only 1 per cent of the fibre's campbility.

So services become cheaper as each pair of lines carries different forms of communica-

Digital telephone

The possibilities appear end-less when the island's 25 exchanges are interconnected exchanges are interconnected by the network, which also provides the basic infrastruc-ture for the "hottest subject today," the fully Integrated Ser-vices Digital Network (ISDN). This is an intelligent network that can handle telephone calls, transmission between comtransmission between com-puters, telex machines, electronic mail and control of electronic equipment.

It provides a digital telephone which can store messages, time calls and actually see the incoming caller's number, which virtually eliminates crank calls.

This strategy has succeeded existing videotex systems, Telebefore. Total revenue for coms could have reduced the projected \$\$500m-\$\$1bn investment in Teleview, an interaction of the four existing videotex systems, Telebefore. Total revenue for coms could have reduced the projected \$\$500m-\$\$1bn investment in Teleview, an interaction of the four existing videotex systems, Telebefore. despite large cuts in international telephone and telex network. But it wanted a computer-based network but it wanted a computer-based network of facilities which the average man can afford and 9 per cent revenue growth rate easily learn to use so it part-a "slowdown." easily learn to use so it part-nered Marconi of Britain to

sonal computer. While it modestly says that while it modestly says that Teleview will complement the Singapore Broadcasting Cor-poration's teletext system (simi-lar to Britain's Ceefax), its interactive system has greater advantages in giving higher transmission quality, producing pictures, and storing more in-formation, with even faster

Meanwhile, the S\$70m under sea submarine cable link with Hong Kong and Taiwan this year underlines Singapore's position as the communications hub between the East and West. Already connected to all ASEAN partners, it will figure

in links from Australia to In-donesia and, in its biggest project, from South East Asia to the Middle East to Western Енгоре.

The 1990s should see an in-tegrated telecommunications network with the United States and the United Kingdom. So far, it has introduced the S\$48m Teletext service to re-ceive and transmit text; facsi-mile machines; Telebox for electronic bulletin boards; and six telephone services such as Abbreviated Dialling, Call Transfer and Call Waiting. It is no longer dependent on a partner to operate the tele-phone directory and the Yellow

The millionth telephone installed this year will raise the ratio of 369 telephones per 1,000 people (292 in Hong Kong) to a telephone for every two persons by .1989.

Next will come, with the increasing popularity of mobile phones, alpha numeric pagers with words and figures and portable handheld telephones; facsimile machines to homes and even a means to avoid junk mail.

paying \$\$200 for an adaptor to fit to his television set and telephone will be able to read the news, access the telephone directory, check stocks or weather, order groceries, send messages and operate a personal computer.

There are obvious synergies as both organisations are in mass communications. The newspapers' libraries can serve as the data base for Teleview, although the Times Publishing group recently launched its almost similar rival Teleguide service. Whether it will play a bigger role remains to be seen, but its chairman Mr Frank Yung

Successful

Although a monopoly, Tele-coms is mindful of service. General Manager Goh Seng Kim boasts its public relations philo-sophy was evaluated the best emong government ministries, departments and statutory boards. PR chief Rosa Tham attends board meetings to assess the effect of decisions made.

This may explain the choice of Telecoms together with Singapore Airlines as two of the nation's most successful

Such accolades have fuelled inevitable queries about its privatisation, after British Telecom's launch as one of 1985's most successful public issues which the Malaysian counterpart hopes to emulate.

It won't happen in the near a controlling stake in companies important to the national interest and few organisations can claim more vital control of land, sea and air communications than Telecoms.

The authority will place in the record books with its proposed 186-metre high engineering complex, designed by Kenzo Tange no less, as the world's tallest telecommunica-tions building (London's 198-metre-high Post Office tower is essentially a tower).

With Telecoms reaching out in every conceivable direction, somehow this seems appro-

Strategy is being refined

Biotechnology

STEPHANIE YANCHINSKI

the home of a new biotech- nology. The difficulties now conwhole Pacific Basin." So says Dr
Vincent Yip, executive director
of the Science Council, and
head of advanced technology at
the Singapore Economic Devel
This means encouraging the
brightest students to think of opment Board, who is one of the architects of Singapore's industrial assault on high tech-

Dr Yip says "We don't have the burden of old industry, nor a large agricultural base to support. Our strategic location and international contacts means we are well placed to move fast" into a number of advanced technologies, of which biotechnology is only one.

The government programme for supporting research and development embraces electronic, and biotechnology, with pro-jects ranging from designing software for information sys-tems to breeding rare orchids. The focus, at the moment, is on biotechnology with the first major international conference to be held in Southeast Asia coming up in November, and foreign companies jostling to establish a base in Singapore. Singapore's fledgling Science Park already boasts commit-ments from two foreign bio-technology ventures the Ameri-

technology ventures, the American-based Biotechnology Ltd. and the subsidiary of a major Japanese concern, soon to be announced. Two others, Ever-bloom Mushroom PTE and Plantek International PTE, a business backed with American money, are already well-estab-lished.

Venture capital

To encourage others the Government recently announced a \$\$100m venture capital fund. earmarked for attracting collaborations with foreign companies in high-tech ventures.

The Government is also pour. The Government is also pour-ing money into biotechnology research. Four years ago the Ministry of Trade and Industry, which has taken a lead in supporting biotechnology, set aside \$850m for engineering and biological research through its newly inaugurated Research and Development Assistance

Scheme.

To date, one fifth has been committed to biomedical and biotechnological projects. Early this year a new Institute for Molecular and Cell Biology was launched with a budget in excess of \$865m over the next five years.

five years.
On top of this, money filters out through other government agencies. The International Trading Company Intraço, a government firm Temasek, and the Development Bank of Singapore combined to underwrite 90 per cent of the S20m Biotechnology, and build, a produce. technology, and build a produc-tion plant for manufacturing vaccines against hepatitis.

However, government plan-ners are readstic about wirst can be achieved in a country as small as Singapore. Dr Yip points out "We must realise that Singapore's small internal country possesses certain advantage. market, and limited manpower tages, such as tropical plant
"SINGAPORE COULD become are constraints on a full thrust genetics, Asian food and bever- Mr Wong Mong Hong, the works a clone of Silicon Valley, and on a broad front into biotech-

> a career in science instead of business through salary incenadmits that the Mandarin tradition of honoured scholarship fundamental to Chinese society has not yet taken root in Singa-pore. "But quickly adds that "We are culturally very adapt-

ently possesses certain advan-tages such as tropical plant other countries. advisers to assess the value of the most ambitious projects, and help refine its strategy.

However, an expert with a noted consultancy agency in Singapore says "the government programme is still too broad. It may be a good thing at first to east the net so wide in order to catch the entrepreneurs, but it must be refined rapidly after-

Unfortunately, traditional but can accelerate fast in the local industry remains sceptical home stretch."

In view of the limited human about the potential of biotechand financial resources, the nology, and the Government Government says that it seeks still funds the applied research and development normally sub-

ages, and healthcare areas such director of Lam Soon Oil and as liver diseases. It consults a Soap Manufacturing, whose own government-sponsored to upgrame biotechnology, says una biotechnology, says una immediately the philosophy of immediately industry is to look for imate returns. They are not concerned with supporting R&D for getting markets 20 years from now, which will determine whether they survive or not."

Dr Yip remains optimistic. We are like Zola Budd-we run well just behind the leaders.

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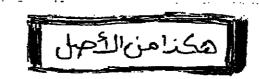
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SECTION II - COMPANIES AND MARKETS

FINANCIAL TIMES



GE plans further outside sourcing

By Terry Dodsworth in New York GENERAL ELECTRIC (GE), the US electrical and electronic equipment manufacturer, is dropping the production of room air conditioners and eliminating 900 jobs at its plant in Louisville, Kentucky, in a further move to source household products outside the company.

The decision follows shortly after

GE announced plans to dissolve its television manufacturing unit and shift to a system of buying-in the equipment from Matsushita Electric, the Japanese group.
GE then said it would be retain-

ing its television tube production fa-cilities and its distribution network, but would use Matsushita, which has a production plant in Chicago, to make sets to its own specifica-

Mr Roger Schipke, senior viceesident, said the outside sourcing of air conditioners, due to begin next year, would permit GE to "focus our heavy investment programme on our core products - refrigerators, laundry equipment, dis-hwashers and kitchen ranges."

The company has recently developed an entirely new range of dishwashers at its Louisville plant, and is believed to have earmarked more funds for the modernisation of its laundry equipment and kitchen

The closure of television and airconditioning manufacturing, along with GEs sale of its kitchen appliances unit to Black and Decker last year, underline the strength of the competition in household products BMW, the West German car and picked up since European Commuat a time when the domestic US inmotor-cycle maker, expects a fur- nity ministers agreed on a comprodustry is rationalising and new ther strong increase in sales reve- mise plan to introduce tighter concompetitiors are emerging over-

nue this year despite an upset in trols over six years from October the local market.
Mr Eberhard von Kuenheim, According to the unions at Louisville, GE aims to use another Japanese company - Sanyo - to produce its air conditioners, although the company says domestic and overseas suppliers are under consider-ation.

ITT earnings fall sharply

By Our New York Staff EARNINGS at ITT, the US conglomerate, fell sharply in the third quarter, but mainly because last year's figures were boosted by a large non-recurring gain. Net income amounted to STIm, or

50 cents a share, against \$115.6m or 77 cents in the same period of last year. ITT said it had benefited in 1984 from an extraordinary gain of \$54.7m, or 36 cents a share, relating to the acquisition of ICL, the UK computer group, by its British affil-

Sales and revenues increased in the quarter to \$4.9hn from \$4.7hn, including \$2bn from the group's insurance and finance division against \$1.8bn a year earlier.

In the first nine months, net profits rose to \$303.3m or \$2.03 a share, from \$273.2m, or \$1.81 in the same period last year. Revenues rose to \$14.7bn from \$14bn in 1984.

Mediobanca power struggle comes to a head

A GROUP of bankers, Rome politi-cians and members of Italy's indus-public shareholders and private cians and members of Italy's indus-trial elite will in the next few days enter a final phase of negotiations what developed, however, was to resolve an issue that has been that together with the Agnellis of among the most explosive in the history of post-war Italian finance.

The issue is who controls Medio-structed a closely knit web of powbanca, the Milan merchant bank, er based on a network of industrial which for the past generation has cross-holdings that would give been a state-controlled institution.

Rather strangely, it has at the same time functioned as a closed and ex-chisive chib on behalf of a small while four shareholders who hold band of leading industrialists. only 1.57 per cent of the bank's There is thus, a sense of ancien equity - Pirelli, Lazard Freres, Berrégime at Mediobanca, a bank that liner Handelsbank and Lazard since 1946 has been ruled by Dr Enrico Cuccia, now aged 78, Italy's say.

most influential deal maker and Mediobanca has in its own portfinancial fixer.

Mediobanca was originally con-

Thus, in 1955 it seemed quite natural for Dr Cuccia to devise a con-trol syndicate in the bank that gave cial markets as shown by the minority private shareholders a de- growth of unit trusts, foreign incision-making power equal to that

BY JOHN DAVIES IN FRANKFURT

Mr von Knenheim said group

sales might reach about DM 18bn

for the whole year, compared with DM 16.5bn last year, and the parent company's sales might reach DM

15hn, compared with DM 12.9bn in

In its home market, BMW car

sales in the first nine months were

down 9.8 per cent to 109,484, but

this decline was more than offset by

an 8.9 per cent rise in sales abroad to 212,866. As a result, the compa-ny's overall car sales showed an in-

Like most manufacturers, BMW's

local sales and orders slipped earli-

crease of 1.8 per cent to 322,350.

BMW sees further

strong sales gains

Today the IRI banks have 50 per Brothers of London - have equal

folio of key share stakes in Gen-Mediobanca was originally con-ceived as a medium-term credit Fiat, Zamussi and dozens of other arm of state controlled commercial companies. Being Italy's only real banks. From the outset, it had the merchant bank, Mediobenca has anomalous character of being an in-stitution, majority-owned by the enjoyed unchallenged supremacy in corporate finance. Access to Mediostate but whose clients were pri- banca, however, has been restricted marily leading private-sector indus- - one was either a member of the club or one was out in the cold. But times are changing: Italy is

vestment and the booming Milan of the three state banks that belong to the IRI holding group and have 56.9 per cent of Mediobanca. In the context of Italy in the 1950s, it was

Fast-footed stockbrokers, inves as well as private shareholders. tors, bankers and financiers such as Supporters of Professor Romano finance look like dimosaurs.

Mr Agnelli, whose power has at times exceeded that of Italian prime ministers, offered to give me his

Messrs Agnelli, Pirelli and others departed Mediobanca, the instituMediobanca, Mr Agnelli controls less than half of 1 per cent, and Mr Pirelli 1.2 per cent. The privatesector giants have somehow been controlling Italian capitalism's most to the politicians in Rome cannot be potent tool without having invested much real capital. Meanwhile, if the private consor-

tium left Mediobanca, it would be leaving behind a vast portfolio of holdings in key companies, includ-ing Fiat and Pirelli. A new broom at Mediobanca might even sweep some of those share stakes into the some of table shares and thanks of new and emerging entre-preneurs, and that presumably would not please Mr Agnelli. But the Mediobanca clash is even

more complex. Aside from representing the old power versus the new and the private sector versus the state, it is also a political issue. Prof Prodi is a Christian Democrat who is trying to reduce IRI losses in part by partial privatisations of IRI liaries on the bourse. To pursue that policy, he needs Medioban-ca, with its securities expertise and placing power. The irony for Prof Prodi is that to privatise IRI companies, he needs to regain state control of a state institution that has fallen into private hands.

In a recent interview, Prof Prodi declared that he merely wished to open Mediobanca up for free market competition." He denied any attion might lose some prestige. As tempt to politicise the bank. While

for the actual share stakes in Christian Democrats want Dr Cuccia out, the private shareholders have allies in the Republican and Socialist parties. Turning Italy's most explosive financial issue over in anyone's interests.

The IRI state banks are caught in the middle. For BCI or Credito Italiano, each with a 20.08 per cent stake in Mediobanca, that holding represents the biggest single asset held, with a market value of LA30bn (\$242m). Perhaps it is not surpris-ing, therefore, that the most likely compromise solution might be to appoint a senior executive from either BCI or Credito Italiano to run Mediobanca while Dr Cuccia is given an bonorary position or finally retired.

Whatever the solution, it will have to be ready by the end of this month, when Mediobanca must hold the annual shareholders' meeting, which was cancelled last week when IRI banks failed to appear. "We needed more time to find a compromise," explained one top The future of Mediobanca is im-

portant for reasons that go far be-yond Dr Cuccia himself, and thus the wisest comment offered on this explosive issue came the other day from Dr Carlo Ciampi, governor of the Bank of Italy. "Individuals," Dr Ciampi said, "come and go, but institutions remain."

Amev to buy

AMEV, the third-largest Dutch in-

surance company, plans to take over Bishopsgate Insurance, a non-

life insurer based in Southampton,

Britain, from the Worms group and

Bishopsgate reported gross premium income of Fl 275m (\$93m) last

UK insurer

By Our Amsterdam

Bain Dawes.

GenCorp set to sell TV stations

By William Hall in New York GENCORP, the Ohio-based conglomerate which used to be known as General Tirc & Rubber, has

agreed to sell its Los Angeles television station and has put its New Jersey TV station up for sale in a series of moves which could raise more than \$600m. The sales are part of a major re-

structuring of GenCorp which was unvoiled yesterday by Mr William Reynolds, who was brought in fram TRW in 1984 and took over as chief executive in September, GenCorp has had a chequered financial history and Mr Reynolds has been given the task of reorganising the group which has been controlled for many years by members of the O'Neil fa<u>m</u>ily.

The planned restructuring, which included the closure of the group's oldest tyre plant, a \$40m after-tax write-off and a significant stock repurchase programme, caught Wall Street by surprise. GenCorp's shares jumped \$7% to a new, all-time high of \$62.

Westinghouse Broadcasting has agreed to buy KHJ-TV, Channel 9, Los Angeles from GenCorp's RKO general broadcasting subsidiary. RKO will receive \$215m, plus working capital. In addition, Westinghouse will pay \$95m to Fidelity tele vision which has been disputing RKO's Los Angeles TV licence. GenCorp has been fighting costly

legal battles for 20 years to retain its TV and radio licences following allegations of questionable business practices. The company lost its Boston TV licence in 1982 and retained its New York area licence by moving the station across the river to New Jersey.

GenCorp also announced that it

has hired Kidder, Peabody, the Wall Street investment bank, to explore the possible sale of WOR-TV Secaucus, New Jersey. Wall Street analysts have estimated that this station could be sold for more than

MEDIOBANCA CONTROL SYNDICATES HOME EN SERVICE Lazard Frenes

own board seat at Mediobanca in is a bluff. True, they reason, if favour of Dr Cuccia, something he in any case could not do as his own seat requires the approval of state

Rights issue for Ciga

BY OUR MILAN CORRESPONDENT

CIGA HOTELS, the Italian hotel chain which was taken over earlier this year by the Aga Khan, is to lamch a L88.1hr. (\$48.9m) rights is done new share for each one that of the new the state of the state sue on the Milan bourse.

offer four new ordinary shares for ed net profit of L9.1bn on turnover every five held, or 11 new shares for of L185bn. For the year which endevery 100 convertible bonds in Ciga. ed last month, turnover rose to held, is to be imderwritten by a conmore than L210bn.

The rights issue involves the of-The Aga Khan, who is spiritual fer of 34.45m new shares of L1,000 leader of 15m Ismaeli Moslems, is to subscribe for the part of the issue per share. This, together with the which relates to his share stake of doubling of the number of shares in 50.03 per cent. Thus the actual amount to be shares), would make a total new raised on the bourse will come to nominal share capital of L117.7bn.

L43bn The rights issue, which will Last year Ciga made a consolidat-

year, which would increase Amev's total non-life premium income by about 11 per cent. Bishopsgate employs about 250 people. Amey is already represented in

the UK by the Gresham group

NEW ISSUE These Bonds having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.

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International bond service,

would work out. The market has

10.36bn.

Many motorists put off buying a car for some months because they were uncertain how the Bonn Government's pollution control plans

chief executive, said earnings having lagged in introducing diesel would be comparable with the good models, the company claims to be results of last year and BMW's dividend would be "appropriate." He larity of diesels in the local market. Because of the strike in the motor

Although BMW is regarded as

vehicle industry last year, BMW sarily aim to raise its dividend postponed some investment to this In the first nine months of this year, complicating a comparison be-year, BMW increased group sales tween the final results to be reportyear, BMW increased group sales revenue by 13.4 per cent to DM ed this year and those of last year. 13.5bn (\$5.18bn). Parent company BMW has already indicated it expects a loss on its South African opsales were up 12.4 per cent to DM erations this year, in common with

some other vehicle manufacturers producing there. Last year BMW increased net profit to DM 329.6m from DM 288m in 1983 and raised its dividend to DM 12.50 per share, compared with

an DM 11 dividend and DM 1 bonus on its 1983 results. The increase in BMW's overall sales revenue this year is partly due to a different model mix, with more

Motor-cycle sales rose 13.5 per cent in the first nine months of this year to 27,447. Sales in West Germany were down 3.7 per cent to 7,673 but sales abroad were up 22

er this year when plans for tighter emission controls were announced. sumer electronics company. It already owns indirectly 8 per cent of

target for record year

Akzo still on

AKZO, the Dutch chemicals and fibres group, lifted its earnings in the third quarter and reiterated its forecast of record profits for all 1985, despite possible erosion from a lower dollar in the final quarter.

Mr Syb Bergsma, the manage ment committee member in charge of finances, was optimistic that Akzo would make another acquisition before the end of the year. Net income rose 8 per cent to F

191.8m (\$65m) in the third quarter, historically a weaker period for the July-September profits have held up well for the past two years, suggesting some success in Akzo's ef forts to reduce its cyclicality. Sales increased 11 per cent to Fl 4.35bn.

ican Enka, the fibres subsidiary whose sales volume and selling prices have been hit hard by the rel

more strongly in the fourth quarter A weaker dollar tends to depres the company's earnings.

EUROBONDS

Citicorp novelty arouses mixed feelings

BY MAGGIE URRY IN LONDON

CITICORP returned to the Eurobond market yesterday with another innovative issue structure, a fixed-rate issue which has its coupon reset every two years at a 65 basis point spread over US Treasu-

ry note yields.

The \$100m issue thus fixes Citicorp 12-year finance at a two-year rate, although the commissions payable are 2% per cent, the standard 12-year fees.

The deal, led by S.G. Warburg, aroused discussion among bond

pick up over other two-year instruments and provide some capital protection, and noted demand for Others said investors were tying themselves up for 12 years but getting a two-year rate which is 9% per

traders. Some argued that the bonds give investors a good yield

cent for the first period. Traders said the structure was too sophisticated for most investors and pointed out that Citicorp would be able to call the issue after six years if its paper was trading at a finer spread over Treasuries. The bonds were trading around the full

Perpetual floaters were also to the fore again with two deals totalling \$650m. Investor demand has been strong for these bonds because of the higher margin over Lordon inter-bank rates offered compared with dated paper and the generally firm floater market. National Wesiminster launched a \$500m issue, led by County Bank, which counts as primary capital.

The bonds pay interest at a 4 per cent over London inter-bank bid

BHF Benk bond average Previous 104.213 Nov 5 **High** 105,603

rate (Libid) with front-end fees of 25 basis points. The bonds were bid at 99.75 yesterday.

The other issue of \$150m was for Bank of Ireland and is also primary capital Traders regarded the terms outside the 2½ per cent fees. on this deal as tight too, although it Deutsche Bank set the terms on the was trading within its one-point DM 200m 10-year deal at a 7 per Toyo Menka Kaisha's SFr 100m is-fees at 99.17 bid. The interest mar-cent coupon and 101 issue price.

tried to strengthen yesterday in the wake of a firmer New York bond market but, dealers said, the weight of unsold paper kept the market in Two new issues appeared in the

where coupons have been firming slightly of late. Credit Suisse First Boston launched an Ecu 75m eight bands were firmer by around 4 Haisland's NKr 200m issue at par year issue for Petrocorp, the New point on average as traders continued to be more optimistic coupon and 99% issue price. This est rates and the currency, and felt and were trading within the 14 per cent selected and were trading within the 14 per cent selected and were trading within the 14 per cent selected and were trading within the 14 per cent selected and were trading within the 14 per cent selected and sel was moving slowly, bid at a 2 point that the recent correction had fin- cent selling concession. discount, equal to the full fees. An Ecu 50m issue for Moet- pre Hennessy had more fizz to it, trad-

concession. The issue matures in

The D-Mark sector gave a warm

welcome to an issue with equity warrants from Mövenpick Finance, part of the Swiss restaurant and ho-tel chain. The DM 75m seven-year market UBS launched a two market use launched a two market use launched a two market uses as a sper cent coupon and par issue price and the exercise premium is 26 per cent Lead manager is CSFR-Effectenbank and the bonds were trading around 107%.

A fived-section of the section of the sectio A fixed-rate issue for Ford Motor Credit did not fare so well, trading

gin is % per cent over the offered The proceeds are being swapped rate (Libor). Lead manager is E. F. into dollars. A DM 80m private placement for The fixed-rate Eurodollar market Gillette, also led by Deutsche Bank, was given a 6% per cent coupon and issue price for its seven-year

sue with equity warrants from 3 per sue finished its first day's trading at European currency unit market cent to 2% per cent. The bonds were 87% compared with its 99% issue trading around 104%. On the secondary market D-Mark

ished. The new floaters were under sure once again. The highest coupon yet seen in ing within the 1% per cent selling the Euro-Australian dollar market of 15 per cent was given to an March 1991 and also pays a 9 per A540m three-year issue for NZI cent coupon with the issue price set Securities Australia, guaranteed by by lead manager Chase Manhattan NZI Corporation, the New Zealand at 100%. The well-known name and insurance group. Issue price was

set at 100% by lead manager Banque Paribas. The sector is still under a cloud though and the bonds were quoted around the total 1% per cent fees. In the Swiss franc foreign bond

ond, for SFr 110m, is for five years and has equity warrants. The indicated yield is 3 per cent.
Swiss Volksbank cut the yield for

cent to 2% per cent. SBC cut the yield for Mitsui and Co's convertible issue of SFr 100m from the indicated 2 per cent to 1% per cent.

The Swiss franc secondary market was mixed in average volume

hife. with prices varying from 14 point falls to 14 point gains. Province of coupon for Zenchiku's DM 30m is Nova Scotia's SFr 200m 20-year is price. It has a 5% per cent coupon. Christiania Bank set the price for

> The Euro-clear System, the international securities clearing and settlement operation, has more than \$250hn nominal of securities held in the system for participants. This is an increase of 37 per cent over the \$182.1bn held at the start of 1985.

Westdeutsche Landesbank

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interest in higher-priced cars.

per cent to 19.774. Mr von Knenheim confirmed that BMW was interested in extending its stake in Loewe-Opta, the con-

In the synthetic fibres division bowever, operating income plunged 38 per cent, partly because of Amer-

atively strong dollar. American En-ka is to be sold to BASF of West Germany pending approval from the U.S. Justice Department.

ings rose 14 per cent to Fl 65Llm while revenue grew 11 per cent to Fl 13.5bn. Profits for the whole year are expected to exceed last year's Fl 7.52m even though the impact of the lower dollar will begin to be felt.

New Issue

October 30, 1985



International Finance Corporation

DM 100,000,000

65/8 Bearer Bonds of 1985/1992

Bayerische Vereinsbank

Aktiengesellschaft

This announcement appears as a matter of record only. The Bonds have not been registered for offer or sale in the United States of America and may not be offered or sold in the United States of America or to nationals or residents thereof or to other U.S. persons.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES & FINANCE

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Fourth quarter	1984-85 1 3	1983-64 1
Net profits	7.16bn 97.3m	1.12ba 90.5m
Net per stere	1.32	1,23
Year	4.00ba	4.36bn
Net profits	401,1m	369,0 _m
Net per shere,	5.43	5.00
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Third quester	1985	1984
Revenue	22.2 m	105,1m
Net per shere	12-2m 0.16	13.2m 0.16
Nine menths		
Het profits	276,1cc 168,6cc	311.2m 258.4m
Net per share	2.25	3.57
READERO AND BATES		
Offshore drilling		
Third quarter	1965	1984
Reverse	8 78.4m	8 97.7m
Not profits	119.2m 10.78	11.19m
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Neterolis	217,1m †28.6m	281.Am 12.4m
Net per share	11.31	0.15
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TANDEN COMPUTERS		
Fail-cafe competers		
Fourth quarter 1	964-85 1	BB3-84
Revenue	3 173.8m	-153.1m
Net profits	11.1m	21,6m
Net per share Year	0.27	0.53
Revenue	624,1m	532.6m
Net profits	34,4str 0,82	42.9m 1.04
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1985 3 196.3m 4.82m 0,72

WORLD AIRWAYS International air G

Apple outlines new strategy

increased profits despite flat revenues for fiscal 1988, according to Mr John Sculley, president of the US

Outlining a series of strategic changes at Apple, Mr Sculley said the group plans not to increase its revenues but to restructure the mix of revenues so it can be well positioned in the long-term to counter

Apple is planning for around 15 per cent revenue growth in international operations, particularly Eu-

APPLE COMPUTER is aiming for portion of its sales abroad from 20 organisation of

per cent to 35 per cent.

We expect profits to be significantly higher in 1986 than 1985.

Things are shaping up for a fine
Christmas quarter with orders already brisk, though revenues will be lower than last year," Mr Sculley

spending will increase by 59 per cent above fiscal 1985 levels. This s an extraordinary commitment to public quarrels with his the importance we believe new product developments must play in Apple's future. Apple implemented a radical research of the implemented of the implemented and implemented of the implemented of the implemented of the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance with the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance with the importance we believe new company and by a slowdown in the importance with the importance

the aftermath of the prorga-Apple to founder Mr St signed as chairman and has subsequently been sued by Apple for at

company and by a slowdown in per-

Southland rejects Burlington bid

BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

share offer by Burlington Northern, the US transport group.

It has also sued Burlington Northern, charging violation of the Se-curities and Exchange Act and is seeking preliminary and perma-nent injunctive relief against the

approved lucrative "golden para-abandonment of its undeveloped against chute" benefits packages for its top leases as a result of its proposed re-months.

SOUTHLAND ROYALTY, the executives in the event of the com-Texas-based oil and gas producer, pany being taken over.

Southland has also sweetened its 57.6m, or 18 cents a share, also the same of the company to the control of the co plan to reorganise the business into

a limited partnership. Changes in the plan include an increase in the intended distribution per unit from \$2 to \$2.70 a year and a commitment to make the distribution during each of the next three years subject to certain conditions.

Southland also announced that a Southland also disclosed that it charge, reflecting the expected

cents a share, compared with a profit of \$8.5m or 20 cents a share in the same period last year. Nine-month profits totalied

\$25.9m or 80 cents previous Revenues totalled

Otter Cate Cape 180's 3072 8's 180's 1972 84 180's 1972 84 180's 1872 84 180's 277 84

FT INTERNATIONAL BOND SERVICE

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NOTICE OF CALL AND REDEMPTION To the Holders of The Bank of Tokyo, Ltd., Portland Branch US\$10,000,000.00 Callable Negotiable Floating Rate Certificates of Deposit due November 20, 1986 (the "Certificates" of Certificates \$1,000,000 00 The Bank of Tokyo, Ltd., Portland Branch, 411 SW 6th, Portland, Oregon



32,000,000 Shares

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Common Stock

Shearson Lehman Brothers Inc.

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Bear, Stearns & Co.

RVICE

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Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Kidder, Peabody & Co.

Merrill Lynch Capital Markets

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ABD Securities Corporation EuroPartners Securities Corporation Hambrecht & Quist Montgomery Securities Oppenheimer & Co., Inc.

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The Ohio Company

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Rauscher Pierce Refsnes, Inc.

Scherck, Stein & Franc, Inc.

Stephens Inc.

Stifel, Nicolaus & Company Sutro & Co. Brean Murray, Foster Securities Inc. Conning & Co. Craigie Incorporated D. A. Davidson & Co.

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INTL. COMPANIES & FINANCE

Japanese shipbuilder in plans to cut workforce

HITACHI ZOSEN, the large Japanese shipbuilder, has announced plans to shed 5,000 jobs and close the new vessels yard at its Biroshima site. The job cats, to be effected by March 1987, will account for some 30 per cent of the total workforce. The withdrawal from shipbuilding at Hiroshima

Japanese shipbuilders are facing the evaporation of their order backlog within two years. Of the industry's rationalisation efforts, those planned by Hitachi Zosen are the most drastic. This reflects the high proportion of shipbuilding in its overall business, accounting for about 24 per cent of turnover compared with only 15 per cent for Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, the largest.

Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy

for the year as a whole down 5.4 per cent from the previous year. It is aiming for

full-year pre-tax profits of Y15bn, up 3 per cent, and net profits of Y8bn, down 17 per cent on sales of Y2,900bn, down 6 per cent.

passed its interim dividend. In room occupancy fate fell to a per cent from 62 per cent.

After a substantially higher interest bill, the pre-tax defect was R1.6m (2621.002) against last year's R10m interim prast.

Mr Meyer Kahn, the chairman, attributes the higher interest bill to the April acquisition of the country a Holiday Inn chain. That acquisition made Southern Sun the largest South African hobsigroup.

After tax allowances, first-half earnings fell to 1.5 cents a share from 20.5 cents. Last year's interim dividend was 16.

Southern

by higher

interest bill

Africa's dominant hotel chain, fell into a pre-tax loss in the half-year to September and has passed its interim dividual in

Sun hit

Mr Kohn expects sess Mr Kann expects according factors to enhance second-half earnings but does not believe that this year's profits will match last year's. He says that forecasting is extremely difficult in the present uncertain socio-

conomic environment.
Southern Sun 15 controlled
by South African Browerisa.

by South African Brewerina.

Plascon-Evans (Pievens), South Africa's largest paint maker, suffered from lower sales volumes and substantially higher raw materials costs in the year to September 30.

Although turnover rose by 5.8 per cent to R263.6m pretax profits were almost halved to R15.7m from R30.7m.

Sales were badly affected by lower levels of activity in the building and automotive industries, and the directors say that the weakening rand led not only to higher raw materials costs but also to higher interest costs but also to higher interest charges on dobt raised to finance more expensive inves-

tories.

Earnings fell to 33.5 cents a share from 62.8 cents and the dividend has been cut to 15 cents from 28 cents.

· Romatex, one of South Africa's leading textiles manufacturers, says unrest and the state of emergency have added trading difficulties. In the year to September, turnover declined by 5.6 per cent to R485m while pre-tax profits dropped by more than two thirds to R11.4m from R35.2m. The directors say trading declined until February and the stability between Marchand June was ended by the effects of the unrest. They are possimistic on immediate prospects saying that the socio-political climate is na-

three-for-five bonus issue, shares in the company had soared on confidence recover.

Earnings per share fell to 39.0 cents from 95.5 cents and the year's dividend has been the Bombay Stock Exchange before falling back last week Sales rose by 14 per cent to

from shipbuilding at Hiroshima is due to be completed by the end of 1987, the company will concentrate these activities at its Ariake works in Kyushu.

Workforce reductions are to be brought about through the lowering of the retirement age to 58 from the current 60 and the transfer of some workers to newly established subsidiaries.

Its overall business, accounting announced yesterday that parent company pre-tax profits dipled 3.05 per cent to V8.34bn in the six months to September. Sales were 5.3 per cent lower at Y885bn, and net carnings emerged at Y4.04bn or Y3.10 per share, against Y4.70bn or V3.61 a share.

Its overall business, accounting announced yesterday that parent company pre-tax profits in the six months to September. Sales were 5.3 per cent lower at Y885bn, and net carnings per share, against Y4.70bn or V3.61 a share.

It maintained the interim dividend, however, at Y3 per share.

First-half loss for Nippon Oil NIPPON OIL, Japan's largest y3.9bn. Half-year turnover was change profits of Y16bn on the premisery oil distributor and refiner, suffered a pre-tax loss of Y7.23bn (\$34.8m) in the half-year to September, compared with profits of Y8.23bn in the blamed on a fall in demand for furt half of 1984.85

Earnings deteriorated despite stable crude oil prices in dollar terms, helped by a reduction in oil output by the Opec countries and hefty foreign exchange gains accrued on oil imports following the steep appreciation of the yen.

There was a net loss Y6.08bn, against profits

Japan relaxes

Samurai bond

By Carla Rapoport in Tokyo

JAPAN'S Ministry of Finance (MoF) has cleared the way for increasing the volume of yen-dominated foreign bonds, or Samurai bonds, in Japan.

restrictions

blamed on a fall in demand for fuel oil from electric power companies as nuclear power stations came on stream, and slack market prices for petrol and other products. Efforts to firm up petrol wholesale prices were undermined by fierce competition of retail outlets.

ror the second half to March The dividend total will be 1986, Nippon Oil intends to maintained at Y6 per share, raise product prices by Y7,000 including an interim payment per kilolitre and expects ex-Price rises boost interim sales and profits at Telco

9.8 per cent increase in sales to Rs 3.77bn (\$308.7m) in the half-year to September, while pre-tax profits rose 12.2 per cent to Rs 115.0m, reflecting

The MoF has approved dual-currency Samurai bonds, raised the ceiling on issue amounts and increased the number of eligible bond-rating services eligible bond-rating services from three to five.

Further, the MoF says it plans to allow floating-rate note Samurais, zero-coupon bonds and corporate bonds with warrants in the Samurai market. MoF official said yesterday the new bonds would amount to foreign exchange hedges for the issuers and allow them to procure cash at less The company produced 22,905 vehicles, up by 13.8 per cent over the same six months last year. The value of exports was down two-thirds to Rs 136.0m, but-Telco-hopes to lift experts to Re 600m by the end of the

them to procure cash at less cost than in Eurobond issues, because of swapping deals.

For the investor, the new Samurais would offer higher interest rates than straight yen hydraulic excavators Japanese collaboration. Companies with triple A rat

The proposal was opposed on

On the expectation of a

TATA ENGINEERING and brokers who had expected Locomotive Company (Telco), more generous distribution.
India's largest producer of An issue of this nature was commercial vehicles, achieved a proposed originally in September last year but was stalled by the Industrial Development Bank of India (Idbi), a government-owned institution. price increases effected early Its prior permission was necessary because of loans which had been granted by this year.

Idbi for expansion modernisation. the proposal was opposed on the grounds that the company's projected earnings would not be able to service the increased equity base, but the present plan has the tacit approval of Idbi.

current year.
Mr S. Moolgapkar, chairman.
says the overall performance of the company during 1985-86 is expected to be better than in the previous year. Telco's product range has been widened with the recent introduction of bardenlies. with

companies with triple A ratings will have no ceiling placed on issue volume, while that for panies, India's largest cement but pre-tax profits were down companies with double A producer, has proposed a one-to Rs 7.08bn in the year to July, cut to 15 cents from 40 cents. Romatex and Plevans are companies with double A producer, has proposed a one-to Rs 134.2m from Rs 212.0m both controlled by the Barlow for-five scrip issue, disappoint-

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6th November, 1985

INTL. COMPANIES & FINANCE

GMF Robotics takes the lead in a fast growing industry

FEW COMPANIES have become the largest in their field only two years after going into business. But that is the achievement of GMF Robotics in the fast-growing robotics industry.

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Manager ...

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GMF began trading in June, 1982 and achieved sales of \$16m in that year. Last year, sales reached \$102.8m, more than double those of Cincinnati Milacron, number two in the US. Moreover, GMF is almost unique among robot makers in being profitable.

This year, revenues will be close to \$200m, which GMF believes will put it comfortably ahead of Asea of Sweden, the European leader. Asea's industrial equipment division, of which robots form a substantial thou ances, feeten in the ideal was a later than part, had sales of SKr 3.5bn. (\$422m) last year. Asea sold nearly 1,500 robots in 1984 compared with GMF s. 1,208.

Of course, GMF, which is based in a suburb of Detroit has a couple of advantages. One of its parents is General Motors, the largest user of robots in the US. The other is Fujitsu Fanuc, the leading Japanese electrical goods and robot

"We chose our parents well," says Mr Eric Mittelstadt, president of GMF, with a smile. As he tells it, the creation of GMF arose from GM's previous unhappy experiences with buying robots from outside suppliers and the knowledge that it would probably want to install about 20,000 robots in its factories by the end of the 1980s.

For its part, Fanuc was getting nowhere in efforts to sell for robots. Three-quarters of robots in the US through its its 400 customers to date are General Numeric joint venture with Siemens of West Germany. Numeric was set up mainly to in areas outside the automotive distribute Fanuc numerical conindustry. That way, they will troks for machine tools in the know we are competitive." US and had no direct contacts with end users or application

The idea behind the joint venture was that Fanuc would provide low-cost hardware, while GM would put in its Flexible Automation Systems (FAS) unit, a group of 60 people that had been working within the group on developing robot systems for several years, It looked like a winning com-bination, yet GMF was coming into a sector that has been hard going for many companies. Cincinnati, for example, has made profits on its well-established robot business in only one of the past 11 years.

In the event, the venture has for the venture's success has if there is any special reason been extremely successful. Combeen its inheritance from GM for this, Mr Mittelstadt is not petitors complain that GMF has of a numerically controlled revealing it. "We get people unfair advantage when deal-system for continuous painting who are excited about the busibeen extremely successful. Competitors complain that GMF has an unfair advantage when dealing with GM as a customer, and it is true that more than half its turnover comes from GM.

But Mr Mittelstadt, a 49-year-model at a GM plant in Atlanta.

its turnover comes from GM.

But Mr Mittelstadt, a 49-yearold GM careerman who has been president of GMF from the outset, denies that there is any preference. "We have the motivation of the huge GM market but we do not have a lock on it. All we can do is bld." became part of GMF, it was installing the first production that it is since become popular in the automotive industry. GMF expects to deliver 200 of them this year to various automotive companies, including BMW and Daimler Benz in West Germany. He also points out that GMF Vehicle painting systems now

> Mr Mittelstadt believes the main reason for GMF's strong start is its IBM-like commitment to cusomers. "Our credo is total

customer support"

is the industry leader, not only in the automotive sector, but GMF's revenues. also in non-automotive markets outside the automotive industry. GM wanted us to be a leader

Some critics also claim that GMF is living largely on low-cost robots imported from Japan, and it is true that the high value of the dollar in the past three years has made: is total customer support. Fanuc's robots, numerical con-includes application engin trols and electrical drives even more competitive than they already were. But Mittelstadt says that 60 per cent of the venture's added value is put on in the US, in the form of system design, software and peripheral equipment. Robots themselves often account for only 15 to 20 systems GMF sells.

But whatever the importance of these factors, it remains a considerable achievement to have managed a fledgling business successfully. Lest year, the company made its first pro-\$3m, and another modest profit

is expected this year. Mr Mittelstadt believes the start is its IBM-like commitment to customers. "Our credo includes application engineering documentation, training, installation support, service and parts. That has been the key because what this business is about is trying to reduce the risks for people in going into new technloogy."

Somehow: CMF has been able Japanese companies are formid-to achieve this without sacrific. able competitors. And there are er cent of the value of the ing productivity. The venture's others, such as IBM and retents GMF sells.

Another, less noticed reason each of its 550 employees. But potential.

ness, and give them an opportunity to do what they do best. The average age here is

Today, GMF gets about 45 per cent of its revenue from sales of spot welding robots, mainly to the automotive industry. Another 25 per cent comes from vehicle painting systems. The rest of its sales are for materials handling and assembly the company's strategy for the the company's strategy for the future is to remain a full-line robotics company, but that could change. Although the robotics industry is still relational transfer of the country of the country is still relationship. tively young, there has already been a significant shakeout, and most analysts believe only a few companies will be able to keep up with technological developments in more than one

specialised sector.

Among GMF's recent technical developments are a programming language for robots.

named Karel after the Czech pioneer in robotics, and an assembly robot that meets clean room standards for use in the electronics industry. The company is also a leader in applying vision systems to robots. Earlier this year, for example, it signed an agreement with Meta Machines of Oxford for the development of an arc welding robot that combines Meta's laser-based vision system GMF's robots.
Until now, GMF has con-

centrated mainly on markets in the US. Its original agreement with Fanuc gave it sales rights for Fanuc equipment in North America, South America, America, South America, Australia, New Zealand and in GM factories throughout the world. Since then, it has gained non-exclusive marketing rights in most European countries with the exception of the UK, where the 600 Group has a licence to market Fanuc robots. and it has opened an office in Dusseldorf.

It remains to be seen whether GMF can maintain the remarkable momentum of its first three Mr Mittelstadt seems confident, but he also acknow-ledges that there are tough This announcement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange, it does not constitute an offer of, or invitation to the public to subscribe



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adnicar Scotland Money Market Cheque Account.

By Michael Cassell,

Land Securities, the UK's

largest property group, has arranged a filten mortgage debenture issue to fund the next phase of its investment and development programme.

The issue, of first mortgage debenture stock dated 2025 at

192.899 per cent, was placed yesterday by Schroders. The price is payable as to £25 per

cent on acceptance and the balance by January 31, 1986.

Gross redemption yield at issue is 10.781 per cent and the stock carries a coupon of

10 per cent. Dealings are expected to start tomorrow.

BY LISA WOOD

was 358p.

J. Sainsbury, with its 274 food stores 26 Homebase DIY centres and majority stake in six Sava-Centres, is Britain's biggest food and drinks supermarket chain and increased its volume share of national business this year to and increased its volume share of national business this year to this financial year give a net of per cent of the market compared with 8.6 per cent last year.

The five supermarkets opened this financial year give a net increase in sales area of 127,000 pared with 8.6 per cent last year. Sir John Sainsbury, the chairman, said: "The trading performance is better than expected. The second half has started well

SHARES OF J. Sainsbury, the food and homecare group, reached a high for 1985 yesterday with the group reporting a 23 per cent interim profits increase.

At 1924m pre-tax for the 28 which 3 to 4 per cent was from the control of the

At £92.4m pre-tax for the 28 which 3 to 4 per cent was from weeks to October 5 1985, compared with £75.1m, the group exceeded already high City expectations. The interim dividend is being increased by nearly 18 per cent from 1.4p to 1.65p.

Last night's closing share price was 364p, up 6p, after touching 372p earlier in the day. The previous highest price this year was 358p.

which 3 to 4 per cent was from supermarkets open for two years.

Retail profits increased by 18.7 per cent and the net margin percentage was 4.65—a record level for the first half. The company said: "Our prices have remained highly competitive and we have made further gains in productivity as well as providing better customer service at the check-outs."



Sir John Sainsbury, chairman

Sir John Sainsbury, the chairman, said: "The trading performance is better than expected. The second half has started well and food price inflation will be fore Christmas. This year's lower than in the first half."

The results reflect Sainsbury's continuing aggressive food store opening programme, with five wolume set a company record for its opening week.

Seven of the 10 stores to open in the second half will be trading before Christmas bringing the total to 28-increased sales by 45 per cent to 548.6m. Despite high development costs profit increased in real terms last year's Sainsbury's which has supported liberalisation of Sunday trading laws for such centres, will

undobtedly benefit if the Govern-ment relaxes restrictions on Sun-day trading.

day trading.

The three principal associates performed well and contributed more than double pre-tax profits of 17.2m pre-tax. The six Sava-Centres, which are effectively hypermarkets selling Sainsbury foods, DIY goods and textiles (the latter coming from the centres joint owner. British Home Stores), increased profits by 49 per cent. Sainsbury's said that Haverhill Meat Products, another associate, was once again another associate, was once again showing good profits after trading problems last year mainly because of high pig prices. Sainsbury's North American associate Shaw's, a private food retailer, achieved excellent

The 1981-85 distribution under The 1984-85 distribution under the group's profit sharing scheme resulted in more than 1.5m shares going to over 11,000 employees who choose to take all or part of their distribution in shares rather than cash. Saiusbury's said as usual, no provision for profit sharing had been made in the half year since the level of profit share was dependent on the full year's results.

Electrocomponents' 26% midterm surge

A NEAR 26 per cent advance in 21.5 per cent, from £73.67m to first half taxable profits, from £89.54m.

\$12.75m to £16.03m, is reported by the Electrocomponents group.

Rut that growth rate is unlikely within its new Weldon facility. £12.75m to £16.03m, is reported by the Electrocomponents group. But that growth rate is unlikely to be maintained in the immediate future.

Market conditions have become increasingly competitive, the directors point out. However, they are confident of continued progress for the rest of the current year and beyond.

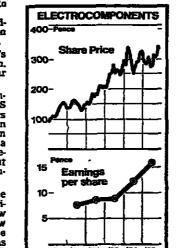
Earnings have moved up from 6.86p to 9.37p per share, and the interim dividend is raised from 1.6p to 1.9p net. For the full year ended March 31 1885, the group made a pre-tax profit of £29.6m and paid a total dividend of 5.25p.

In the half-year ended September 30 1985, all the subsidiaries— principal activities are the distribution of electrical com-ponents and the leasing and sale of computer systems and software—achieved sales revenue The half-year's profit included (£5.72m) and minorities £71,000 growth and each contributed to interest received of £743,000 (£47,000), to leave the available profit. Turnover increased by (£568,000). Tax takes £6.4m profit at £9.55m (£6.99m).

At September 30, the group's net bank balances stood at £9.5m, compared with £4.2m a year

On October 1, Electrocomponents set up two new US subsidiaries—S & S Electronics and Lowell Systems based in Boston-to acquire assets from two existing businesses at a cost of \$5.6m. Existing management remains and the investment will be financed by a medium-term bank loan.

S & S is engaged in the distribution of computer peripheral equipment in New England, New Jersey and New York: Lowell supplies bar code labeling and tracking systems from offices in New England, New Jersey, Chicago and Toledo.



Electrocomponents has done it again — announced better than expected figures but scuppered their impact with a cautious statement about the future. The statement about the truther. The shares fell 12p to 333p after the news having outperformed the market by 10 per cent over the past month. Nevertheless, despite the customary caution, Electrocomponents should still make £35m to £38m pre-tax this year with perhaps £40m to £42m the year after. In the interim period pre-interest margins im-proved by a half point, thanks to the new Weldon facility which did not really start humning until April. Further margin improvements are possible and even though competitive pressures have emerged in recent weeks, price is not a serious problem. And p/e of 16, assuming a 40 per cent tax charge, is not expensive for a company that has recently averaged 30 per cent profits growth even if that drops to under 20 per cent in the next

Rosehaugh behind but assets expand

TAKING INTO account much heavier administration costs and interest charges, the investment holding and property development group Roschaugh has turned in lower profits for the street in the interests in Woolworth Holdings, the whole of held by LMH and the other net ment group Roschaugh has turned in lower profits for the street in the interests in Woolworth Holdings, the whole of held by LMH and the other net much be sold realising net proceeds of the Roschaugh shares will not true the little of \$20m. turned in lower profits for the of £20m. year ended June 30 1985.

down from £3.4m to £2.7m and earnings per £1 share have fallen from 31.8p to 22.5p. The dividend, however, is stepped up to

Mr Godfrey Bradman, the chairman, says the year has begun to reflect the rewards of the pursuit of asset growth over recent years. Net assets attribut-able to shareholders at June 30

ear ended June 30 1985.

At the pre-tax level they are own from £3.4m to £2.7m and arraings per £1 share have fallen development of 500,000 sq ft at Whiteley. The land has been gross of offices, to be completed in three phases.

Progress continues to be made sidiaries which have recently made several purchases of development sites and other properties for their medium some £12.5m.

LMH also owns 670,066 shares in Rosehaugh representing 9.2 per cent of the capital, and other properties for their medium net assets with a value of £68,000. term programmes.

able to shareholders at June 30 had surged from £18.86m to £51.35m, with fixed assets investments standing at £28.97m (£1.9m).

The increase reflects the valuations, for the first time, of the first time, of the first time, of the first time of the smooth. This company is 50 per the first time of the acquisition for the acquisition of the balance of LMH will be the issue of 730,000 content the first time, of the first time first time, of the firs

Granville & Co. Limited

Member of The National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers

8 Lovar Lane London EC3R 8BP Telephone 01-621 1212

Over-the-Counter Market

independently valued at £6.5m and were planning permisison now available it would be worth

The convertible shares will not be listed but will be convertible at the holder's option into Rosehaugh ordinary not later than December 31 1990 by refer ence to 50 per cent of the net asset value of Craftsmooth at the date of conversion.

With a view to improving the marketability of the Rosehaugh shares, the directors propose they should be subdivided into

In the year ended June 30 the group made a gross profit of £6.56m (£5.71m) from a turnover of £27.22m (£26.43m). Other or 121.22m (£20.45m). Other income came to £1.22m (£789,000). Administrative costs £2.23m (£1.7m) and interest payable £2.84m (£1.4m).

Date Corre- Total Total

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

	Current		sponding	for	last
	payment	payment	t div.	year.	year
Bradford Property in	t. 4.5	-	3.25		8.5
Brikat	2.5‡	Jan 13	0.75	4	0.75
Electrocomponents in		Jan 2	1.6	_	5,25
Gomme Holdings	. 2	Dec 31	Nil	2	Nil
J. Hepworth	. 2,75	Jan 2	1.83*	3.75	2.58*
Rosebaugh		Dec 9	3.36	3,92	3.36
J. Sainsbury un		Jan 17	1.4	_	4.5
Tay Homes		_	3.1p	4.5p	4.5p
W. A. Tyzack		_	1	1,7	1.5
UDO Holdings		Dec 19	_	3.75	
Whitbread Invest in	t. 2.37	Jan 10	2.17	-	6.73
Digidanda chawa wana	cha			4L 2	

Dividends shown pence per share except where otherwise stated.

* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue. † On capital increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. ‡ USM stock. § Unquoted stock.

Land Hepworth at £20m and Securities * changing name to Next raises £100m

Next chain has not only brought financial rewards to J. Hepworth Son but is prompting the directors to propose using that name as the group's title. With their announcement of

With their announcement of the preliminary results for the year, ended August 31 1985, showing pre-fax profits, rising from £13.52m to £20.05m, they say because of the growing awareness in the minds of the public/City and the media of the name Next, they are asking shareholders to approve the use of that title for the group.

In the year, Next womenswear In the year, Next womenswear had an excellent 12 months and the success of Next for Men has meant rapid expansion, the chairman, Mr Michael Stoddard, reports. Both sides made an increased contribution to an advance in retail profits.

Land Securities has 2 UK portfolio valued at over £2bs and has recently announced a series of property acquisi-tions and development proposals designed to maintain its investment programme and asset growth.

The group, which has over two-thirds of its property assets within the Greater London area, plans continuing improvements within its existing portfolio but is also embarking on a fresh phase of new projects.

It has recently acquired two office buildings in London's office buildings in London's Fleet Street, plans a major redevelopment in Trafalgar Square and has submitted a planning application to build a 221,000 sq ft office scheme on the former general post office site near St Paul's Cathedral. The group is also stepping up its involvement in stepping up its involvement in the development of retail warehousing

Mr Peter Hunt, managing director of Land Securities, said that the group had recently committed itself to a large number of new schemes, together with some which had not yet been disclosed. He said much of the £100m raised had already been carmarked for new protects.

He added: "We felt this was the right time to raise the money, on reasonably favourable terms. We have been able to borrow at a lower cost than would be possible for the rest of the property

Bishopsgate Insurance ** changes hands

The major Dutch insurance group, AMEV, is acquiring Bishopsgate Insurance, a UK-based non-life insurance company, from its present owners, the Worms Group, a French company, a Bain Dawes, the UK insurance broking

AMEV is putting up a total capital commitment of between £12m and £13m, which comprises the acquisition costs and an increase in Rishopsgate's capital base.

The acquisition marks a further stage in AMEV's planned development of its UK interests. It already has a strong involvement in the UK life market in both the traditional sector, through Gresham Life Assurance Society and the unit-linked through Gresham Unit Assurance. It recently expanded into the UK unit trust market with the formation Gresham Unit T

Bishopsgate is a general insurance company based in Southampton with particular emphasis on motor, travel and marine insurance. It employs 250 people and its gross premium income in 1984 amounted to £65.4m.

Next Interiors, the home furnishing range, was launched successfully in August. During the year the "complete store" strategy has been developed, says Mr Stoddard, with womenswear, menswear, shoes and accessories, interiors, cafe and florist all trading alongside each other. "We will continue to expand this successful concept," he says. Retail rationalisation costs, including the creation of Next Interiors chain, were offset against the surplus on property disposals in excess of last year's revaluation, leaving an extraordinary profit below the line of £2.15m (£461,000). Net profit came to £11.79m (£8.19m) after tax of £8.27m (£5.43m), giving earnings of 8.73p (£6.69a) per share. With 'effect from September the group exercised its option to acquire the minority interest of 49.9 per cent in Club 24, the non-consolidated finance subsidiary, from Forward Trust. It also agreed to acquire Lord John and Werff. Brothers from Raybeck at a cost of some £11.5m to be met by vendor placing of 4.57m Hepworth shares and cash. The businesses are engaged in retailing ladieswear and menswear from some 104 outlets. advance in retail profits. The £20,06m profit was at the top end of City expectations. Shareholders receive a final dividend of 2.75p, giving them 3.75p 52 per cent, from £13.66m to and Werff. Brothers from R 125.5p adjusted for last year's two-for-one-scrip listle in 1983.64. Turnover advanced by 34.5 per cent, from £13.66m to beck at a cost of some £11.5m for-one-scrip listle in 1983.64. Turnover advanced by 34.5 per cent, from £13.66m to beck at a cost of some £11.5m beck at a cost of some £11.5m tributed £11.39m (£6.58m), be met by vendor placing for-one-scrip listle in 1983.64. Turnover advanced by 34.5 per cent, from £108.33m to £146.05m, (£3.94m), and the trading profit before consolidated subsidiary £4.74m wear from some 104 outlets. Gomme returns to dividend list

HEPWORTH.

Share Price

the dividend list after a four 190,000.

Year absence. Following an increase in 1884-85 pre-tax profits from a restated £1,53m to £1,72m, tax losses of nearly £4m will the company has declared a mean profits earned will consingle payment of 2p net.

The directors report that com-

adoption of SSAP 23 or capitali. Gomme Holdings shares bounced

The directors report that compared with the poor start in 1982-85, where has been a marked long leasehold property during the directors state.

The company's freehold and this der improvement in demand. The long leasehold property during the disset, company started the current year for £16,500, was profession stances, with a very satisfactory order ally valued on an open market basis at £4m as at July 26, 1985. The return the long leasehold property bought during the disset.

This figure has been incorporated after figure has been incorporated after figure has been incorporated.

AS FORESHADOWED in May, slightly at £1.58m; against from the controversial clawback Gemme Holdings, the maker of £1.52m. Last year, there was on the company's overfunded pension scheme. For future years the dividend list after a four £20,000.

Borrowings fell from £3.05m possibly up to the end of the century—the effect of the recent to £1.52m to £1.52m in the year. Available Inland Revenue decree is that from a restated £1.53m to £1.72m, tax losses of nearly £4m will come need contribute nothing to pensions. Each year this te pensions. Each year this should save around £150,000 on costs. In addition the rest of this decade could well be tax free thanks to accumulated losses. 'Under such circum-

stances, and with gearing down from 48 per cent to 31 per cent, with a very satisfactory order ally valued on an open market from 48 per cent to 31 per cent, book which ensures that the factories are working to capacity. This figure has been incorporated after five years seems only just for full year result; reflected in the accounts and the excess for the patient shareholders. The an improvement in the second over the net book value on the coming year promises to be the half, following the downturn in same date of £1.16m has been best since the halcon days of transferred to a revaluation 1976-77 in spite of the doldrums in the furniture trade and £2.1m profit has been restated with \$18,000 added as a result of the Comment forecast puts the shares on a adoption of SSAP 21 of capitalimodest prospective multiple of 4 given a nominal 10 per cent adoption of SSAP 22 of capitalisation of finance leases.

Turnover for the 12 months to for a very long time, thanks to

July 26, 1985 increased from a strong second half profits imtax charge with a market capitalisation of only 67.4m, the
228.44m to 630.57m. Tax charge provement. The market has
was higher at £140.000 (£13.000)- been further buoyed because someone attracted by its tax

TMD valued at £6.33m

BY HICHARD TOMKINS"

The Advertising a London company which buys advertising diary of kimpher; the holding (UK), Beecham Cosmetics, time and space in the media for company for a number of British Olivetti, Hahltat and its clients, is to become the first advertising interests. Initially it Button.

Brokers Phillips & Drew are agencies in the company at 118p per share, giving it man, was a co-founder of the pushess and their families.

The placing will raise £1.3m of which about £241,000 net will be new money for the company. The rest will go to the directors and their families.

Turnover in the year to August the profits delivering the advertiser's mession in 1982.

The placing will raise £1.3m of the company agencies in the company of the company of the company director. In 1975. The directors at the pre-tax profit was £302.000. The company is the company against £302.000. The company has declined to make a profits for its clients with the sain of remainder in 1982.

The placing will raise £1.3m of the placing will raise £1.3m of the company against £302.000. The company and the pre-tax profit was £304.000 against £302.000. The company has declined to make a profits for its clients with the sain of remainder in 1982.

The placing will raise £1.3m of the placing will raise £1.3m of the company against £302.000. The company is the pre-tax profit was £304.000 against £302.000. The company has declined to make a profits for its year have passed. The historic p/e ratio is 21.4 after a largest media specialist company.

Ronald Martin placing on USM

be new money for the company and the rest will go to share-holders—principally Mr Martin Abramson, the chairman, and Mr Migel Gordon, the managing director, and their families.

The group, based in Man-

First dividend from Health Care Services

Health Care Services expects to pay its first dividend after six months in which it has seen greater profitability than it had

greater probataoutty than it man expected.

The USM ~ listed group's first half to September 30 is more than double that achieved in the year to March 31 1985. Last year's figures were adjusted. A final dividend of 0.75p per share will be payable in August 1988.

Lord Constantine, chairman, says the rationalisation programme has been completed, gramme has been completed, and, in July, the group sequired the Normanburst Home for the Elderly for a cash consideration of £322,000. The group seasthis as an expanding area of

health care

Both the medical personnel and hospital divisions are exceeding their target and the group is optimistic that this will

continue,
In the six months to September 30, turnover rose to £3.47m
from £2.58m in the same period
last year. Operating profit was
£269,000 against £141,000, and
interest was £54,000 (£86,000),
£arnings per share rose to 1p
from 0.4p.

Lord Constantine is to resign
as chairman after completing wisas chairman after completing his agreed term in order to pursue other interests. Mr Graeme Hart is to succeed him.

LADBROKE INDEX Based on FT Index Tel: 01-427 4411

Ronald Martin Group, an office chester, was formed in 1972 by the group says the purpose of equipment, furniture, and Mr Martin and his wife Karen, the Unlisted Securities Market via a placing by brokers Panmure Gordon & Co of 2.3m shares at 90p each, giving a market capitalisation of £6.8m.

The placing will raise about 152.1m. Of this, £389,000 net will be new money for the company and the rest will go to share holders nationally Mr Martin has grown organically and the group says the purpose of the provide additional working capital to finance further expansion organically and through acquisition. Turnover in the year to last December was £6.1m, against fam, and the pre-tax profit, after directors' additional emoluments of £116,000. Was £385,000 (£116,000) after emoluments of £116,000. The group forecasts a pre-tax

has grown organically and through acquisition. In 1983 it acquired the Manchester-based Fred. Eyre Stationers and last year it acquired George Hellawell of Dewsbury.

The group forecasts a pre-tax profit of £875,000 for the current year, putting it on a prospective p/e ratio of 122 after a fax

ÖSTERREICHISCHE **VOLKSBANKEN-AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT** US\$ 25,000,000

Floating Rate Subordinated Notes due 1989

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Terms and conditions of the Notes that for the six months from 7th November 1985 to 7th May 1986 the Notes will bear an interest rate of87/₅₆% per annum with a coupon amount of US\$212.11

London & Continental Bankers Limited Agent Bank

DIVIDEND INCREASED

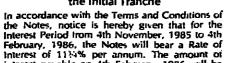
ear of cash

The Board of Directors has increased the quarterly dividend rate from 73c to 76¢ for the fourth quarter of 1985, thus raising the similicipated annual dividend rate from 52:92 to \$3.04. The increased fourth quarter dividend is Bayabia Batterister: 10 to stockholders of record on November 8. This will be the fourteenth consecutive, year in which total dividends paid per common share have increased over the preceding year. About 204,000 stockholders will share in our earnings.

Tenneco Inc

WALTER W SAPP Secretary





February, 1986, the Notes will bear a Rate of Interest of 1134% per annum. The amount of interest payable on 4th February, 1986 will be £148.08 per £5,000 Note, and £1,480.82 per £50,000 Note. Agent Bank

CHARTERHOUSE

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc

£200,000,000 Floating Rate Notes 2005 of which £100,000,000 has been issued as

the Initial Tranche



A member of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group

Prices and details of services now available on Prestel, page 48146

Authorised

This advertisement is assued in compliance with the responsive of the Council of The Stock Exchange. Apply after this been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the ordinary shorts of TMD Advertises Holding PLC (the Congrue 2 in the United Securities Market It is emphasised that no application has been made for these securities to be adoutted to the Official List.

Placing by Phillips & Drew

TMD ADVERTISING HOLDINGS PLC

of 1,073,685 ordinary shares at 118p per share payable in full on application. A proportion of the shares now being placed may be available to the public through the Market until 3.30 p.m. this afternoon. SHARE CAPITAL Issued and to be

£350,000 in ordinary shares of 5p each The ordinary shares which are the subject of this placing will rank part passe in all respects with the existing BUSINESS TMD provides specialist screeps in the planning and larger of advertising media. These screeps designed to ensure that an advertiser's message is delivered cost of a screlly to the maximum number of potential customers in a defined target market.

On the basis of independently compact information on marks expenditure:

• TMD is the Use largest independent medic stee salus company.

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• TMD was the countribution purchaser of medic in the UK during the year coded 30th June, 1985. Particulars of the Company are available in the State and services of Extel Statistical Services and requestof the prespectus of such particulars may be obtained during normal lustiness hours on any weekday (Saturday) and public holidays excepted up to an law being 20th November 1995 from: TMD Advertising Holdings PU Phillips & Dove The Regal Beach of Scuttania ple

Litt Movemente, Location ECCM GAP

6th November, 1985

issued fully paid

UK COMPANY NEWS

Britannia launches counter-offensive

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RESERVE

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Att to the 5

to so to the training

Britansia Arrow, the banking and investment group, yesterday gave an increase of 30 per cent promises of 30 per cent in dividend income was also misleading because it ignored the implication of Britannia's profit growth.

Mr Rippon said he could not given a dividend forecast, but he pointed out that Britannia's heart offer. It said "Our offer has also offer document as "misleading" in several propose, the chairman, the pointed out that Britannia's heart in the pointed out that Britannia's heart in the pointed out that Britannia's share in 1890 to 25p in 1984.

In response to GP's claim that the was "wholly inade-polaters it was "wholly inade-polaters" it was maying was "meaningless."

He said that GP's calculation of Britannia's share in 1890 to 25p in 1984.

In response to GP's claim that the wo groups no offer. It said "Our offer has allow provided either a dividend offer. It said "Our offer has allow provided either a dividend offer. It said "Our offer has allow provided either a dividend offer. It said "Our offer has allow provided either a dividend offer. It said "Our offer has share prove to an amounced large because the group had not produced either a dividend share price was 64p as share pointed out that the share price was 64p as share pointed out that the share price was 64p as share pointed out that the share price was 64p as share price

Chester Waterworks in offer by tender

Chester Waterworks Company yesterday announced the offer for sale by tender of £1.5m of 8 per cent redeemable preference stock 1992.

The issue, which is under-written by brokers Scymour, Pierce & Co, offers a conven-tional gross yield of 11.42 per cent at the minimum tender price of £100.

The fully grossed up franked investment income yield of 12.44 per cent compares with 11.44 flat and 10.74 redemption on Exchequer 12; per cent 1992, which is the closest equivalent gilt-edged issue.

Chester Waterworks Company was incorporated in 1826 and supplies water to a population of about 112,000 over 132 sq km of Cheshire and Clwyd, under an agreement with the Welsh Water Authority. At December 31 it had net assets of £5.1m. The purpose of the issue is to raise funds towards the redemp-tion at par of £2m of 9 per cent tion at par of £2m of 9 per cent redeemable preference stock 1985 at the end of next month. The offer closes at 11 am on November 13. A deposit of £10 per £100 nominal must accompany each tender and the balance is to be paid on or before December 19.

The last waterworks issue was by Eastbourne Waterworks Company which offered £2.75m of \$\frac{3}{2}\$ per cent redeemable preference stock 1995.

comment

Chester Waterworks' offer carries with it the prospect of an attrac-tive yield in conventional terms. On a franked investment income yield basis it looks still more tempting and among stocks redeemable in seven years, there is nothing to beat it. Being a small issue, however, it will tend to find its way into firm hands and stay there fore the duration. Seymour, Pierce's experience in these matters suggests that the offer is pitched at a price which will see it go to a premium of between 1 and 1 point, so successful tenders will be in that range. It is not an issue geared to the small investor, who would not benefit from the franked investment income yield. Those who bid regardless should stock is issued at the price investors go in for—there is no

electrocomponents

INTERIM RESULTS

30 September

Trading results and prospects

- Strong growth in first half
 - Two new US subsidiaries acquired on 1st October 1985
 - Board is confident of continued progress for current year and beyond, but increasingly competitive market conditions indicate that growth rates in the immediate future will be lower than first half
 - Interim dividend increased to 1.9p (1.6p)

	Half year to	Half year to	Year to
	30.9.85 (unaudited)	30.9.84 (unaudited)	31.3.85 (audited)
	000.3	£ 000	E.000
Sales turnover	89,544	73,674	164,024
Profit before Interest received	15,284	12,185	28,497
interest received	743	568	1,090
Profit before taxation	16,027	12,753	29,587
Taxation	6,410	5,718	13,087
Profit after taxation	9,617	7,035	16,500
Minority interests	71	47	153
Earnings available for			
shareholders	9,546	6,988	16,347
Dividends	1,937	1,631	5,351
Retained earnings	7,609	5,357	10, 99 6
pividends pershare: Interim	1.9p	1.6p	1.6p
Finai	_	_	3.65p
Earnings per share	9.37p	6.86p	16.04p
Increases over corresponding period:			
Sales .	21.5%	27.8%	26.9%
Profit	25.7%	28.8%	33.1%
Net Group Bank Balances:	£9.5m	£4.2m	£2,5m
The audited figures are extracted from the company's received an unqualified report and i	s tull accounts for the yea	er ended 31 March 1965.	These accounts

electrocomponen

Harrier House, St. Albans Road East, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 OHE

Bestwood expands corporate activities

• At the same time, Bestwood At the same time, Bestwood forecast that profits for the current year would be not less than £550,000, excluding any contribution from Foraky. This compares with £234,000 last time, of which 90 per cent came from Foraky dividends. sent year would be not less than a feedback of the following any contribusion from Foraky. This compares industrial division. It is one of the leading ground freezing countries in the leading ground freezing countries in the leading ground freezing countries. The rights issue has already tractors in the UK, and at the been sub-underwritten by institutividends.

The size of the cash call came project for the National Coal for the purpose of financing an

BY DAVID GOODHART

Bestweed, the fast-growing investment holdings concern, yesterday amounced the expansion of its corporate activities on three main fronts:

The £75m purchase of Satisfied through the issue of Satisfied through the satisfied through the satisfied through the satisfied through the satisfied in Nottinghamshire.

Work commenced on this contract last summer and is expected to run for two and a half year. Bestwood in Nottinghamshire.

Work commenced on this contract last summer and is expected to run for two and a half year. Bestwood in Nottinghamshire.

Satisfied in Nottinghamshire.

Work commenced on this contract last summer and is expected to run for two and a half year. Bestwood or revolution this year. Bestwood in Nottinghamshire.

in Bestwood's shares since July, when they have roughly doubled. The Foraky deal is regarded

Marley bid rumours continue to grow

three main fronts:

The £7.5m purchase of Nottingham based mining services company Foraky will be mainly funded through a £4.2m rights issue.

The group's unit trust operations, under the Atlanta Fund Management arm, will be expanded with the £0.3m cash purchase of James Finlay Unit Trust Management.

At the same time, Bestwood

The £7.5m purchase of the total price would be satisfied through the issue of new shares.

The rights—on the basis of new shares.

The rights—on the basis of new shares of the for for seven at a deeply discounted 280p — was necessary, according to Mr Cole yesterday, because of higher working capital requirements following increased business at Foraky.

Mr Cole also indicated that provide a manimum of next least summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer, a separate agreement was signed with the NCB to provide a manimum of countries and crews, but this could rise to as many as 17 rigs and may be extended beyond its June 1987 expery date.

Mr Cole also indicated that provide a manimum of the rights—on the basis of new shares.

Work commenced on this contract last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer, a separate agreement was signed with the NCB to provide a manimum of countries and countries are provided to the second to run for two and a half years. Also last summer, a separate agreement was signed with the NCB to provide a manimum of countries and countries are provided to run for two and a half years. Also last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer are last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer are last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer are last summer and is expected to run for two and a half years. Also last summer ar

Mr Cole also indicated that ground freezing — in which water-bearing ground is frozen as a prelude to drilling and shafting—could be in demand following any decision to build a cross-Channel turnel.

called Franki.

The profit forecast represents a 177 per cent increase over last time. Mr Cole said that the directors had not yet decided whether to consolidate Foraky's profit in the current year, but this would obviously increase the group outcome for 1985. In the year to June 30 1985 Foraky made film on turnover of £8.1m. Also film on turnover of £8.1m. Also at that date it had net assets of £8.8m and a surplus on valuation of fixed assets of £6.8m.

Mr Cole said that the dividend for the year would be held at 6p on the increased share capital. Bestwood shares closed yesterday at 410p, down only 5p despite Bassett in

£0.86m buy

Bassett Foods yesterday that it has bought the goodwill, trade marks and stocks of Anglo Bellamy from Rowntree Mackintosh for £860,000, inherit-ing a further £380,000 in debts. The sale was agreed in principle in September. Anglo-Bellamy, which made a fim loss last year, makes bubblegum, Beech Nut chewing gum, Ponte-fract cakes and a number of children's confectionery lines,

THE reorganisation at Marley, major strategic re-think at the building materials group, continued to fuel bid remours yesterday and the share price rose another 5p to close at 114p. Sir Robert Clark, who took over as non-executive chairman in May, stremously denied rumours that the Aisher family is planning to sell its 15 per cent stake. "We are going through a lightly strategic re-think at the moment tout the family is in full ture did not include the post. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidders for Marley or its subsidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible bidders for Marley or its subsidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible bidders for Marley or its subsidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible bidders for Marley or its subsidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. Woolworth and Norcros have been mentioned as possible sidiaries. COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

JACKSON GROUP, the East industrial se industrial services concern, made pre-tex profits of £428,000 (£444,000) for the six months to June 30 1985, on £14.51m (£15.21m) turnover. The group aims to at least attain 1984 peraims to at least attain last per-formance levels for this year. The interim dividend is 1.2p (same). The company's shares are traded on the over-ths-counter market made by Gran-

BISICHI TIN, metals and minerals dealer and investment Martin Jourdan, the chairman, company, saw pre-tax profit fall told the AGM. Its textile metak months to June 30. Gross income was £106,000 (£133,000), the books were healthier. an dtax was £13,000 (£15,000).

FOVE INVESTMENT TRUST: British American and General Trust holds 1,825m of income shares (12.9 per cent) and its parent company, Shires Invest-ment, holds 225,000 income

northern Securities Trest increased net asset value per 25p share to 199.8p (184.4p) as at September 30 1983. Gross income for the six months period was £825,894 (£403.658) and protax profits £243,972 (£154,281). Earnings per share came to 1.45p (0.88p) and the net interim dividend is raised to 0.7p (0.87p).

PARKER KNOLL profits for the first few weeks of the current year were higher than for the comparable period last year, Mr. Martin Jourdan, the chairman, told the AGM. Its textile mer-chanting companies continued to

LONDON & ASSOCIATED investment Trust reported pre-tax profits for the first half of 1985 up from £159,000 to £193,000 on gross income up at £418,000 (£285,000). Earnings per 10p share were 0.73p (4.47p) before extraordinary items, and as parallification of the statement of the

saw pre-tax profits improve from share—based on net profits 226,145 to 537,136 on lumover attributable to ordinary holders in at £36,880 (£31,951) in the six were 14.5p (11.55p). The net interim dividend is lifted to 4.5p interim dividend is unchanged (3.25p).

NORTHERN SECURITIES Trest 511,000 (£7,900).

TEARLING BONDS' interest rate for this week's issue is 11; per cent, down A of a percentage point from last week, and compares with 10; per cent a year ago. The bonds are issued at par and are redeemable on November 12 1986. A full list of issues will be published in tomorrow's edition.

HEYWOOD WILLIAMS Group, aluminium and glass specialist, has acquired Birmingham Powder of issues will be published in tomorrow's edition.

BIDS AND DEALS

BRASWAY rights acceptances have totalled 2,174,585 shares (98.75 per cent of the issue). The balance has been sold in the market.

MAGNETIC MATERIALS Group offer for sale of just under 5m shares closed oversubscribed yesterday morning.

ment, holds 225,000 income shares (1.6 per cent).

BRADFORD PROPERTY Trust raised pre-tax profits to £5.64m (£4.94m) in the half year to October 5 1985. Tax took £2.23m share were 0.73p (4.47p) before extraordinary items, and 25 usual there is no interim paying own based plant hirer and seller, has decided not to go ahead with its planned £1.1m acquisition of the Harrison Hire Company. Mr property investment company, Alistair Deakan, Howden finance

legal complications. AULT & WIBORG'S discussions with Sherwin-Williams of Cleveland, Ohio, regarding the possible sale to them of the company's automotive paints operations

purchase consideration is the issue of 800,000 new Heywood Williams shares, of which 400,000 have been placed at 147p per share, and £12,000 cash. Based on the placing price, the deal is worth fillsm. Birmingham Powder made a profit of £287,000 in the year ended March 31

JAMES NEILL HOLDINGS, the hand toolmaker which is bidding flom for Spear & Jackson has launched another appeal to Spear's shareholders to accept its offer. The two companies were an excellent match and together would form a British group with an excellent future, Mr Hugh Nell, the Nell chairman, wrote. Spear rejected the Neill arguments as containing nothing new and said it did not want to take on the problems besetting Neill.

TECHNICARE International, a subsidiary of Turriff Corpora-tion, has agreed to purchase 49 per cent of Bellman Computing with options to bring the total shareholding up to 85 per cent by 1988.

THE MERGER between Crest Nicholson and C. H. Pearce & Sons is not to be referred to the

TELEPHONE RENTALS. has received acceptances in respect of 5.45m shares (93.11 per cent of the issued share capital) of Case Group, USM-quoted paging equipment maker. The offer is now unconditional and will remain open until further notice.

CHANNEL HOTELS and Prop ties has increased its holding in Alelbone and Sons, footwear menufacturer and retailer, to 438,500 ordinary shares (6.03 per

BENNETT & FOUNTAIN Group has bought Queensway Electrical, a wholesaler, for £100,000 plus stock at valuation and Piercys (Electronics), retailer, for £5,000.

DOLAMORE HOLDINGS has signed agreement to buy the Virani Magpie Soft Drinks business from Varani Group UK.

INDEPENDENT Newspapers associate companies in the Noble Group have agreed to sell three radio stations in California, US, for a total of \$45m (£31m) from which Independe expected to realise \$12m.

MACFARLANE GROUP (CIRES man), holding company with packaging and printing interests, has acquired Lancashire Box, a tainer maker and distributor for £550,000. The consideration comprises £78,450 in cash and the issue of 371,299 ordinary

BARROW HEPRURN GROUP industrial holding company, has sold its: loss-making subsidiary Scenaord, a wholesaler of hard-kulting yarus and knitted garments, to Wlabourne (Holdlates) for £75,000.

SAINSBURY'S

Record Group Performance

		<u> </u>	
The unaudited interim results for the Group were:	1985 28 weeks to 5th October	1984 28 weeks to 6th October	Increase
Sales*	1,831.6	1,598.3	14.6%
Retail Profit	85.2	71.8	18.7%
Retail Margin	4.65%	4.49%	
Associates	7.2	3.3	118.7%
Group Profit before Tax	92.4	75.1	23.2%
Group Profit after Estimated Tax	60.1	52.0	15.5%
Earnings per Share (fully taxed @ 35%)	9.60p	7.06p	21.8%
Dividend per Share *includes VAT £82.5 million (1984 £69.4 million)	1.65p	1.4p	17.9%

_AND SECURITIES PLC

£100,000,000 10 per cent.

First Mortgage Debenture Stock 2025 at £92-899 per cent., payable as to £25 per cent. on 8th November, 1965 and as to the balance by 31st January, 1966

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the above Stock to be admitted to the Official List. In accordance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange £10,000,000 of the Stock has been offered to the market and may be available to the public on the date of publication of this

Listing Particulars of the Stock have been circulated in the Extel Statistical Services and copies may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (excluding Saturdays) up to and including 20th November, 1985 from:

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited 120 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DS

Land Securities PLC 35 St. Thomas Street. London SE1 9SN

Land Securities PLC Landsec House, 21 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4PY

Rowe & Pitman 1 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA

Cazenove & Co. 12 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN

and, until 8th November, 1985 only, from: The Company Announcements Office.
The Stock Exchange,

London EC2P 2BT

6th November, 1985

Salient Points

1 Profit growth of 23.2% reflected substantial improvement in all areas of the Group's activities. Retail profit increased by 18.7% and the net margin percentage was 4.65%, a record level for the first half. Our prices have remained highly competitive, and we have made further gains in productivity, as well as providing better customer service at the checkouts.

 Of the total Group sales of £1,832 million, supermarket sales of £1,783 million show an increase of 13.9%. Supermarket volume growth exceeded 9%, with the level of price inflation reducing to 4.2%.

3 Five supermarkets opened in the half year, giving a net increase in sales area of 127,000 sq.ft.. All are trading well ahead of forecast and at the new supermarket outside Guildford, sales volume set a new Company record for an opening week. Of the ten stores to open in the second half of the year, seven will be trading before Christmas.

4 Homebase sales increased by 45% to £48.6 million and despite continuing high development costs, profit increased from £0.3 million to £1.6 million. Three stores were opened in the half year, and in the second half two stores will open to bring the total number of Homebase outlets to 28.

Sank of Scotland Money Market Cheque Account.

5 All Associates performed well. SavaCentre's profit increased by 49%; Haverhill Meat Products is once again showing good profits, and Shaw's, the Company's American Associate, achieved excellent results.

6 The 1984/1985 distribution under our profit sharing scheme resulted in more than 1.5 million shares going to over 11,000 employees who chose to take all or part of their distribution in shares rather than cash. As usual, no provision for profit sharing has been made in the half year's accounts, since the level of profit share is dependent on the full year's results.

Interim Dividend

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.65p per share (1984 1.4p) which, together with its associated tax credit, is equivalent to a gross dividend of 2.36p. The total amount of the net dividend is £11.5 million (1984 £9.7 million). This dividend will be paid on 17th January 1986 to shareholders on the register of members at the close of business on 20th December 1985.

Good food costs less at Sainsbury's

ABRIDGED PARTICULARS

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange, Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the

Chester **Waterworks Company**

OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER OF

£1,500,000

8 per cent, Redeemable Preference Stock, 1992 (which will mature for redemption at par on 31st December, 1992)

Minimum Price of Issue £100 per £100 of Stock

yielding at that price, together with the associated tax credit at the current rate, £11.42 per cent. This Stock is an investment authorised by Section 1 of the Trustee Investments Act, 1961 and by paragraph 10 (as amended in its application to the Company) of Part II of the First

The preferential dividends on this Stock, which will rank pari passu for dividends with the existing Preferential dividends of this state of 8 per cent. per annum without deduction of tax. Under the imputation tax system, the associated tax credit, at the current rate of Advance Corporation Tax (37 this of the distribution), is equal to a rate of 337 this per cent. per annum.

Tenders for the Stock must be made on the Form of Tender supplied with the Listing Particulars and must be accompanied by a deposit of £10 per £100 nominal amount of Stock applied for and sent in a sealed envelope to National Westminster Bank PLC, New Issues Department, P.O. Box No. 79, 2 Princes Street, London EC2P 2BD marked "Tender for Chester Water Stock" so as to be received not later than 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 13th November, 1985. The balance of the purchase money will be payable on or before Thursday, 19th December, 1985.

Copies of the Listing Particulars, on the terms of which alone Tenders will be considered, and Forms of Tender will be available, for collection only, during normal business hours today and tomorrow from the Company Announcements Office of The Stock Exchange, London EC2. Copies may also be obtained during normal business hours from:—

Seymour, Pierce & Co., 10, Old Jewry, London EC2R 8EA. National Westminster Bank PLC. New Issues Department, P.O. Box No. 79, 2 Princes Street, London EC2P 2BD

and 33, Eastgate Street, Chester, CH1 1XA or from the Company's principal office, Aqua House, 45, Boughton, Chester, CH3 5AU.

6th November, 1985.

has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the ordinary shares of Ronald Martin Group PLC in the Unlisted Securities Market. It is emphasised that no application has been made for the shares to be admitted to listing. A proportion of the shares being placed may be available to the public through the market during market hours today. This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Excha

> RONALD MARTIN GROUP PLC (Registered in England No. 1079695)

> > PLACING

Panmure Gordon & Co.

2,287,640 ordinary shares of 10p each at 90p per share

Authorised £850,000

Share Capital ordinary shares of 10p each Issued and now being issued fully paid

The Company is one of the United Kingdom's leading independent suppliers of office equipment, furnit stationery. The Company is also involved in the wholesale supply of gift and commercial stationery and

Particulars relating to the Company are available in the Extel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during normal business hours on weekdays (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 20th November, 1985 from: Parmure Gordon & Co.,

9 Moorfields Highwalk, London EC2Y 9DS 6th November, 1985.

Brikat exceeds budget with advance to £1.3m

Brikat Group, the USM quoted business accounting software group, has achieved record ex-pansion of sales and profits in its second year as a public com-

With turnover more than doubled at 58.28m, against 53.55m, pre-tax profits jumped from £726,000 to £1.28m for the year to July 31 1985. The direcfors say the profit achievement exceeds their own budget.

They are recommending a final dividend of 2.5p net making a total for the year of 4p, compared with a single payment of 0.75p previously. Stated earnings per 5p share increased from 8.5p to 14p.

The growing demand for business microcomputers and soft-ware referred to at the interim stage has continued throughout the year.

The directors say the group's balance sheet remains strong despite the significant resources absorbed by acquisitions.

The principal emphasis of the group's activities during the year was in providing an integrated

The effects of the miners' strike and increased competition on Yorkshire-based Tay Homes

Pre-tax profits for the year to June 30 fell to £647,000 from £1.02m last year. The USM-listed

company is paying a final divi-dend of S.Ip, making 4.5p (same) for the year.

The present year has started satisfactorily, and the board feels that the company's future can be

W. A. Tyzack ahead

W. A. Tyzack. Sheffield-based

engineering components maker, has increased pre-tax profits for the year to end-July, 1985, from £250,793 to £282,507. Second-balf profits reached £157,146 against £140,303.

against £140,303.

An increased 1.1p final dividend lifts the total for the year to 1.7p (1.5p). Stated net earnings per 10p share were down from 3.38p to 3.28p after substantially higher tax of £119,713 (881,184).

Turnover moved ahead by £457,493 to £6.73m. Extraordinary items added £47,840 (debit £20,144).

viewed with confidence.

limited growth and squeezed

Tay Homes

profit hit by

pit strike

The following companies have notified dutes of board meanings for the Stock Exchange. Such meatings for exqually held for the surpose of considering dividents. Official indications are not evaluable as to whether the dividents are instring or female and the subdivisions whom below are based many on test year's impetable.

TODAY

range of software, microcom-puters, consumables and maintenance services to the business microcomputer marketplace.
The group has made considerable progress in its strategic development during the year and to this end, its present activities are now being organized into are now being organised into divisions in order to maintain effective growth over the next

few years.

To assist in achieving this objective, the directors are actively seeking to recruit additional senior management.

BOARD MEETINGS

PUTURE DATES

to provide the major part of group earnings, and this will continue for the foreseable future.
However, the directors have identified other related growth areas which should produce similar earnings opportunities in

the near future.

The results of current research into new markets, both at home and internationally, will add new services and products to the continuing success of the Pegasus range, the directors state.

Acquisition helps UDO to almost doubled profits

PRE-TAX PROFITS almost doubled for UDO Holdings in list, says that the present year the year to the end of July, 1985. Started well, prospects were and in line with the forecast at the time of its coming to the looks forward to another excellent. Year dividend of 3.75p is to be paid with a recommended final of the looks forward to another excellent year. Stated earnings per 10p share were 15.14p, up 78 per cent from 8.47p.

On turnover up by 38 per cent from £9.15m to £12.65m taxable earnings improved to £1.55m, including a contribution of £249,000 from Sime, Malloch in the three months since it became a sub-sidiary. Pre-tax profits for 1983-1984 were £805.000.

for the year.

Mr Trevor Spencer, chairman, and Mr Norman Stubbs, joint managing director, have again waived their dividends, as stated in the prospectus at the flotation, which helps conserve the company's cash reserve.

Overheads and interest payments were higher at £881,000 (£749,000) and £542,000 (£749,000) respectively. Land sales were nil, compared with £111,000 previously. Earnings per share fell to 7.1p from 11.6p. The decision to create a wider spread of establishing a company in Scotland, has proved worthwhile. Mr Terry Rutter, chairman of general

Mr Rutter says that the year was one of considerable activity. Three new outlets were opened in England, the Cheltenham branch moved to new larger premises and in April Sime, Malloch, market leader in Scot-

land in retailing drawing office supplies, diazo printing and drawing office supplies bought for £2.76m.

Gable House acquisitions

Gable House Properties has announced three separate acquisitions for a sum totalling and Westbourne Grove and £1.925m, excluding expenses.

The company is to acquire a modern freehold nursing home for Calleton Herries and Calleton Herries announced three separate acquisitions of 1.241.666 new ordinary shares announced three separate acquisitions for Westbourne Grove and Calleton Herries announced three separate acquisitions for Winchester and Westbourne Grove and Calleton and Westbourne Grove and Calleton announced three separate acquisitions for Winchester and Westbourne Grove and Calleton announced three separates and Calleton announced three separates and Westbourne Grove and Calleton announced three separates and Calleton announced thre

The company is to acquire a modern freehold nursing home in Winchester, Hampshire: a freehold development property in Westbourne Grove, London, W; and the freehold interest in the grayle learning learning the model of the company. the group's long leasehold office building, College House, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Gable House is to issue a total

College House. Gable House directors say that with planning permission available, Westbourne House will be a substantial addition — tonsideration is £800,000.

The amount payable for Win-chester is £650,000.

Newmarket realises some investments for redeployment

Newkmarket Company, the ermuda-based vetiture capital Bermuda-based venture capital concern, says that persistent uncase over publicly quoted technology-based stocks and the steady requirement from existing investments for further funding continued in the third quarter to end-September 1985.

Against this background, Newmorket has taken the oppor-

Against this background. New-market has taken the opportunity to realise those investments which have failed to live up to expectations, says Mr Alan Henderson, the chairman.

"Although this takes time, it releases funds which can be put to more constructive use in the support of younger, more promising ventures," he adds.

During the third quarter, a new UK investment was made in Procyon Research which represents the transfer of young talent and ideas from an academic background to the first stages of commercial development through the involvement of New Cambridge Research.

Another investment was made in Sepracor, a bloengineering

in Sepracor, a bloengineering company based in the US, which continues Newmarket's policy of co-investing with Veurock Asso-

three months carlies.

Operating revenues for the mise months to end-September amounted to \$839,000, aming \$854,000. Expenditure was \$1.6m compared with \$1.67m, and after

Firstland Oil expands its Falklands interests

Firstland Oil & Gas, which holds the first oil prospecting licence granted for the Falkland Islands, has confirmed its long-term commitment to the area by buying the 220 sq m Douglas Station, which covers about 121 per cent of East Falkland.

During its first year of operations the company has carried out a series of geological studies.

It intends to continue its activi-ties on the islands and is having discussions with the Govern

The Douglas purchase will give the company a base on the Falklands.
For the 13 months to the end of June 1985, Firstland suffered

a pre-tax loss of £97,219 on turn-over of £154,849. As it was incor-norated only in May 1984 there are no comparative figures. With no tax charge the loss per share came out at 2p. It is not proposed to pay a dividend.

The year was marked, the directors say, by substantial investment to lay the founda-

tions for the future. However the company ended the period-with no bank borrowings. It is intended to offset the high risk of the South Atlantic with exploration and production in the mature oil areas of the US. In Texas and Oklahoma it has added a little less than Sin (£2.09m) worth of proven reserves (unescalated and undiscounted) to the company's

In the year a small profit was made before allowing for deple-tion, amortisation and deprecia-

Further eicoloration. development acreage is being sought and since the year end almost all the remaining interests in the Tounget lesse have been bought. That will bring immediate income.

Firstland also has interests in Australia in the Sural-Bowen basin where it has recently been given an authority to prospect by Queensland Department of

lux.

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FINANCIAL TIMES CONFERENCES

Aerospace in Asia and the Pacific Basin

Issues to be discussed:

- Civil aviation in South-East Asia and the Pacific Basin: the prospects for the airlines flying in, to and through the region; the growth of air cargo in civil aviation
- Workable competition in Asia and the Pacific Region

Speakers taking part include:

Dr Cheong Choong Kong Singapore Airlines Limited

Mr Peter Sutch Cathay Pacific Airways Limited

Mr James B Leslie **Qantas Airways Limited**

YB Dato Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahman Malaysian Airlines System Bhd

Mr Colin Marshall **British Airways**

Mr William H Draper III Export-Import Bank of the United States

- Airport developments in the region; infrastructural implications of continued growth; aviation safety The role the major aerospace
- manufacturers can play in promoting civil aviation developments Developments in the People's
- Republic of China

Professor Dr Günter O Eser International Air Transport Association

Mr Joe Sutter Boeing Commercial Airplane Company Mr Jean Pierson

Mr John Glasscock British Aerospace plc

Airbus Industrie

Mr C M Ryland Hawker Pacific Pty. Ltd.

Mr Lim Hock San Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore

Date and Venue:

13 & 14 January, 1986. Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore

This conference precedes the major Aerospace '86 Exhibition at Changi International Airport.

Type of Business

Enquiry Form

Aerospace in Asia and the Pacific Basin

Of 'Asrospace in Asia and the Pacific Basin' conference



A Financial Times International Conference

To: Financial Times Conference Organisation, Minster House, Arthur Street, London EC4R SAX, Tel: 01-521 1355 Telex: 27347 FTCONF G



This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange. It does not constitute an offer of, or invitation to the public to subscribe for or to purchase, any securities.

The Governor and Company of the **BANK OF SCOTLAND** (Constituted by Act of the Scots Parliament in 1695)

U.S. \$250,000,000

Undated Floating Rate Primary Capital Notes

The following have agreed to subscribe or procure subscribers for the Notes: Merrill Lynch International & Co.

Bank of America International Limited Banque Bruxelles Lambert S.A. Baring Brothers & Co., Limited Crédit Lyomais Daiwa Europe Limited Goldman Sachs International Corp. Kidder, Peabody International Limited Lloyds Merchant Bank Limited Mitsui Trust Bank (Europe) S.A. Morgan Greafell & Co. Limited Morgan Stanley International Nomura International Limited

PK Christiania Bank (UK) Limited

Bankers Trust International Limited Barcleys Merchant Bank Limited Citicorp Investment Bank Limited Dai-Ichi Kangyo International Limited Dresduer Bank Aktiengesellschaft E F Hutton & Company (London) Ltd. Kleinwort, Benson Limited Mitsubishi Trust & Banking Corporation (Europe) S.A. Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited

Morgan Guaranty Ltd Nippon Credit International (Hong Kong) Limited Orion Royal Bank Limited

The British Linen Bank Limited

Application has been made for the Notes, in the denominations of U.S. \$10,000 and U.S. \$250,000 each, constituting the above issue to be admitted to the Official List by the Council of The Stock Exchange, subject only to the issue of the temporary global Note. Interest will be payable semi-annually in arrears in May and November, the first payment being made in May 1986.

Listing Particulars are available in the statistical services of Extel Statistical Services Limited. Copies of the Listing Particulars may be obtained in the form of an Extel Card during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) from the Company Announcements Office of the Quotations Department of The Exchange, Throgmorton Street, London EC2P 2BT, up to and including 8th November, 1985 or during usual business hours on any weekday (public holidays excepted) at the addresses shown below up to and including 20th November, 1985:-

de Zoete & Bevan, 25 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7EE

Société Générale

S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

Bell, Lawrie, Macgregor & Co., Erskine House, 68-73 Queen Street, aburgh EH2 4AE

Bank of Scotland, 55 Old Broad Street London EC2P 2HL

Citibank, N.A., 326 Strand,

Saitama Bank (Europe) S.A.

Sumitomo Trust International Limited

6th November, 1985

London WC2R 1HB

THE CAR INDUSTRY

Dutch Volvo comes back from the brink

By Kenneth Gooding, Motor Industry Correspondent



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But the Dutch Government's faith in its domestic car company increasingly seems justified. Last week, for example, the company, called Volvo BV but only 30 per cent owned by the Swedish group with the rest in Dutch hands, unveiled the first of a new range of medium-sized cars which will stand alongside its ageing 300 series and gradually replace them in the 1990s. replace them in the 1990s.

Dutch Volvo has come so far so fast that its management is already under pressure to re-turn the company to the private sector by way of a stock market flotation. However, Mr Andre Deleye, the chairman, says he wants to see if the new models—predictably called the 400 series—live up to expectations before asking private investors to put up their cash.

As recently as 1980 the com-pany suffered a loss of Fl 100m (£23m) which caused yet another crisis in the history of an organisation which started the car business within the Daf group.

Last year Volvo BV made a 3 per cent return on capital— with a net profit of Fl 18.235m, up from Fl 14m in 1983—and Mr Deleye's objective is to build that up to a respectable 10 to 15 per cent return by 1990. Much will depend on the new range of cars.

Dutch Volvo has decided to start with the top model in the range, the 480ES, then steadily introduce - other : 400 series vehicles so that eventually there will be three, four and five door hatchbacks and saloons with a

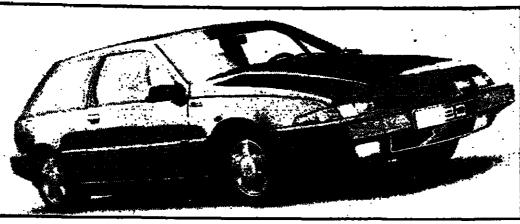
top model—a three-door, four-seat hatchback which looks much more like a Japanese sports coupé than any of the rather angular Swedish or Dutch Volvos seen in the past—will take the company into the US for the first time.

Dutch Volvo has set itself very modest in the large cars already designed and developed by Daf, were refined and some Volvo features

Thus, Volvo dealers in the past added.

Thus, Volvo dealers in the past added. Dutch Volvos seen in the past refined and some volvo leatures — will take the company into the US for the first time.

Thus, Volvo dealers in Europe Dutch Volvo has set fiself very modest targets for the model to tell, at a moment when 480ES. It wants to produce there was a hiccup in demand motor industry on the produce the product of the product of the past to the parts of the parts of the parts of the past to 750—and others for its spare to



The 480ES, which will spearhead Dutch Volvo's assault on the US market, and its chairman, Mr Andre Deleye

reaches a peak, but intends to export 25,000 of them to the US.

in 1980 the company sold only 69,000 cars. Last year it sold a record 106,500 and in 1985 expects to retail about 110,000 compared with a current annual capacity of 150,000. The best market is the UK, with 1984 sales of 35,000, followed by the Netherlands (18,300), Sweden (10,400). France (9,300) and West Germany (6,000).

Although Dutch Volvo is a minnow compared with major

European companies such as Fiat, Ford, General Motors (Onel-Vauxhall) Volkswagen Fiat, Ford, General Motors (Opel-Vauxhall), Volkswagen, Renault and the Peugeor-Citroen-Talbot group, each of which produces well over 1m cars a year, its 1984 output puts it in the same league as Italy's Alfa Romeo (200,000 cars last year) and Saab of Sweden major exporter. (Last year 72 per cent of Dutch Volvo's turnover was generated outside its

US, planned for late 1987, home market and the 300 Dutch Volvo will use the series cars alone accounted for Swedish Volvo dealer network exports worth Fl 235m). which is now revving at top speed and should sell over 100,000 cars there this year out of a total production of 285,000.

The Swedish company took a majority stake in Dutch

or Dutch companies made any profit on the 300 series, it stopped dealers deserting to other marques—particularly to the Japanese who were making headway in the late 1970s. Swedish Volvo spent more

subsidiary before deciding it could not bear the mounting losses while its own financial position was under strain. In the early spring of 1981 the Swedish management got together with Dutch govern-ment officials to hammer out a

new package of ownership and

home market and the 300

But it was by no means a foregone conclusion that the state would be willing to bail the company out. The giant RSV shipbuilding and engineering group was on its way to bankruptcy, taking with it

25,000 a year, once output for big cars. Although in the tion side, recalls: "I made it designed by a Dutch Volvo team clear that Volvo BV was not going to be run as a job-creation organisation but as a profit—tented business. which had to compete with out-side competitors from Italy. Although early development six years ago took place in Sweden, since 1981 it has been a Dutch

project, using some of Swedish Volvo's facilities as well as

engineering help from con-sultants. For example, Volvo BV

used Lotus Engineering in the UK as a "sounding board" to

plete work on noise and

Renault engines and transmis-

For the 400 series range, Volvo BV asked Porsche

in the 300 series cars.

vibration problems.

Volvo BV was promised its money, a total of Fl 618m over the years to 1986 to be spent on the development of a new range of cars and the capital investment needed for them. Some Fl 460m would be injected by the state, mainly through the National Investment Bank (which now owns 49 per cent of Dutch Volvo) with edish Volvo finding the rest. Under the terms of the agreeent, Dutch Volvo continued to

use the Volvo name and distribution network. But there was a subtle change of emphasis in the relationship between the companies. No longer was the BV management under the direct control of the Swedes but it had to make its own way
-checking with Swedish Volvo
only after formulating its

Dan Werbin, Swedish Volvo's marketing director, says that the partial divorce from his company sparked off renewed energy and enthusiasm at on existing tooling under an Volvo BV which might not have arm's length commercial supply occurred if it had remained a contract. In line with Mr Deleye's

warning that Dutch Volvo could not be run as a welfare organi-sation, 500 of the 6,000 employees were made redun-dant in 1981. But as the company has recovered, it has recruited 220 engineers for the new car range—taking the total to 750—and others for its spare

Volvo to take over assembly of the engine as well. The company made one important miscalculation. It needs automatic transmission for the

company's expectations — it would be worthwhile for Dutch

versions of the 400 series to be sold in the US and designed the four-speed unit being jointly developed by Renault and Volkswagen, However, its production is well behind schedule perhaps by a year. So Duich Volvo made a list-minute switch, involving much late-night engineering work, to a four-speed unit already being produced by ZF of West Ger-

In the past three years Outch Volvo has been investing in research and development at the rate of around 9 to 10 per cent of turnover (which reached Fl 1.8bn last year, up from Fl 1.57bn) well above the industry average but, of course, much less than the major car groups in absolute terms.

It has modernised its car assembly plant at Born in the where a new paint facilitywhich can cope with 200,000 cars a year—has cost Fl 200m check ideas on braking, ride and handling and also to comalone and another Fi 20m has been spent on 80 robots.

In the late 1970s Swedish Volvo signed a technical co-operation deal with Renault, the state-owned French group, "Volvo BV was practically bankrupt in 1980, so we have come a long way." Now everything depends on

the new 400 series range and, particularly, on the 480ES which will be put on sale pro-gressively in European counto use its small-car, front-wheel-drive technology. As a result tries from March next year before making its debut in the crucial US market. Initial Volvo BV asked Porsche Engineering in West Germany to develop a "new" engine reaction from the States has been enthusiastic. The US Volvo company believes it could sell 10,000 to 15,000 in from the existing Renault parts. This gives Dutch Volvo its own, the first year and, if the mode distinctive power unit in the 400 series while enabling finds acceptance, swallow all the predicted 35,000 annual output. The 480ES will be sold Renault to produce the engines in two versions in the US. at a lower price than any other Volvo-\$10,000 to \$11,000-and However, the Renault transanother at \$12,000 to \$14,000, just below the price of the mission to fit what is the first front-wheel-drive Volvo has been modified to such an extent

cheapest four-door Swedish-

that it is no longer inter-changeable with the version used by Renault. It will be Not only should the new Dutch model set total Volvo car sales in the US rolling towards assembled by Dutch Volvo at sales in the US rolling towards its component plant at St 150,000 to 160,000 in the 1990s, Truiden, across the border in but it will also play a big part Belgium. In changing the Volvo image.

Mr Deleye soys that should As Dan Werbin says: "We don't

built car.

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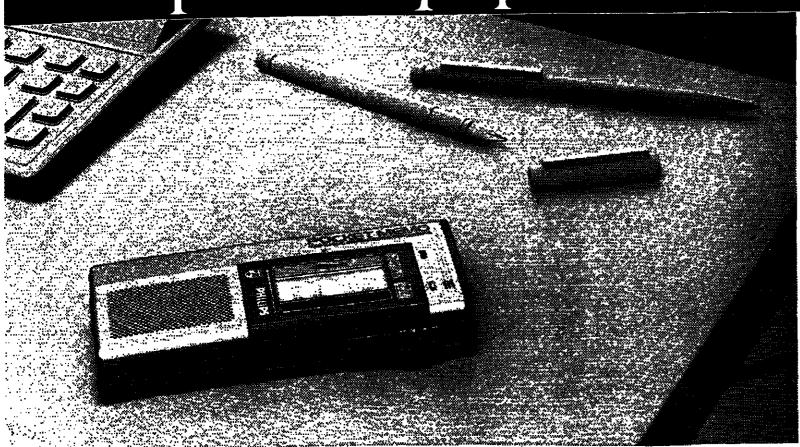
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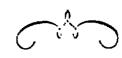
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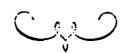


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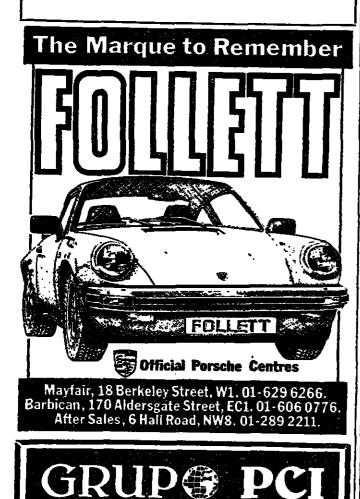


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RESOURCES REVIEW

Hazards of dismantling a gas-cooled reactor

By Maurice Samuelson

TWO MASSIVE concrete chimneys, from which smoke never appears, dominate the UK Atomic Energy Authority's site at Sellafield (alias Windscale). on the Cumbria coast.

They are the sinister relics of the two atomic "piles" once used by the authority for making weapons grade making weapons grade plutonium out of uranium. After one of them caught fire in 1957, it was decided not to knock them down but to seal them off

for what then seemed an indefinite period, while their radioactivity slowly decayed and their danger to life declined. However, as the research arms of the UK's nuclear indusarms of the UK's nuclear indus-try, the authority is determined to demonstrate that although nuclear power continues to take off as a cheap and efficient source of electricity, it should not be regarded as a Franken-stein which cannot be con-

That is why over the next decade or so it will invest much of its manpower and effort at Schlafield into dismantling the prototype of Britain's chain of advanced gas cooled reactors (AGRs) which, until well into the next century, will be producing the bulk of the country's nuclear electricity.

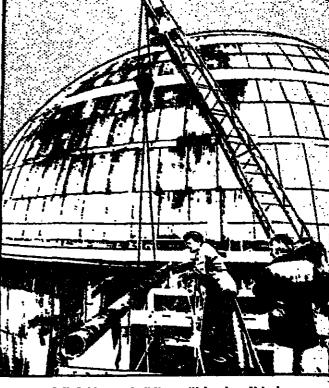
Known as the WAGR (Windscale advanced gas-cooled reactor), it has an electrical output of 30 Megawatts, Built between 1958 and 1962, it was between 1958 and 1962, it was used for about 19 years to test a wide range of fuels for nuclear industries in many parts of the world. But it became redundant for scientific use once the present chain of commercial AGRs was established, and as a generating unit it was also superfluous to the it was also superfluous to the requirements of the National

By the time the reactor was finally switched off in 1981, the authority had drawn up a de-commissioning plan and had decided to carry it out. Since then the fuel has been removed from the reactor and much of the non-radioactive demolition work has started. However, the core of the reactor is still active and the subsequent highly delicate stages will be followed carefully by the generating authorities in England and Scotland, eager to learn lessons for the future.

Besides demonstrating how nuclear reactors can be taken apart, the findings of the decommissioning team are likely to influence future methods of building power stations and help to develop the equipment for dismantling them when they reach the end of their working lives.

The de-commissioning is be- land site. ing carried out under the The authority is about to direction of Dr Harry Lawton, order a special machine, incordirector of the authority's porating robotic cutting and Windscale laboratories, who handling tools which will be says that the crucial radio-controlled by operators from a active operations are due to shielded position. Its specificatake place between 1989 and tions were drawn up by a com-1991, with a view to replacing mittee headed by Mr Freeman. the reactor by a greenfield site

immutable. "It is much more important to find acceptable solutions to problems as they sadness and of pride.



Sellafield: this building will be demolished

commissioning manager, sees the job as a three-stage opera-tion. Stages one and two, which have already begun, involve removing the fuel from the reactor where the heat reaches 1,250 degrees C, shutting the plant down and installing sur-

reillance procedures.
Stage Three includes dismantling everything else—the spherical, steel-plated building, with a height and diameter of 41.5 metres, and weight of 850 tonnes; and the steel reactor vessel weighing 250 tonnes, and its 210 tonnes of graphite lining.

The active material will be sealed inside 8 ft-high reinforced concrete cubes with 1 ft thick walls. This will be carried out in a special packaging building already under construction at the side of the reactor. The cubes are designed for dropping in the Atlantic but, because of the recent inter-national convention outlawing deep sea nuclear dumping, they will now probably end up on a

For the scientists, engineers

Mr Robert Gaille, an AEA scientist who co-authored the 1957 scientific paper which led to the building of the WAGR, was its research manager between 1959 and 1951. Since then, he has been based at the authority's headquarters at the Risley, near Warrington, and is due to retire at the end of the year. He is proud of the WAGR's contribution to cheaper nuclear power, but has no regrets about not being involved in the de-commissioning programme. As far as he is concerned, he says, he would be content to wait 50 years for its radioactivity to drop to safer levels rather than cut it up

However, other WAGR veterans openly relish the prospect of demolishing it. Tony Freeman's biggest regret is that, since he is due to retire in 1989, he will be leaving five years before the reactor site is due to become a green field "But as I live just over the hill I hope they'll invite me back when they plant a tree on it,"

Most frustrated of all is 65 ear-old Mr Ken Herbert, the oldest and longest-serving en-gineer still working on the reactor. One of its five shift-foremen, he is due to leave the industry at Christmas, "Rut I'm going 20 years too soon, It's just getting interesting for me."

It was barily becouse he fell so tied to the WAGR that the furthest he ever travelled from England was to the Isle of Man. However, this timetable is not much of their lives on the life he has applied for a passimutable. "It is much more WAGR its systematic destruction." Once I've cone, I'll never come through that gate again," he says.

"What's special about these Danish companies?"

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FT COMMERCIAL LAW REPORTS

Change of employer not prejudicial to main contractor

MCGREGOR NAVINE (UK)
LTD v BRITISH RAILWAYS
BOARD AND OTHERS
Queen's Bench Division (Commercial Court): Mr Justice
Bingham: October 31 1985

WHERE THE original employer under a construction contract fails to inform the main contractor that he say, by statutory novation, transferred all his contractual sidilary.

The Board's chief civil engineer, and the overall manager of the project was an officer of SISD.

During the later stages of negotiation the Board had been of its shipping interests and section 7 of the main contract fails to inform the main contractor that he has, by statutory novation, transferred all his contractual manager of the project was an officer of SISD.

During the later stages of negotiation the Board had been of its shipping interests and section 7 of the main contract fails to inform the main contractor that he assume that he is shipping and Harbours of its wholly-owned subsidiary.

Acting under section 7 of the Transport Act 1968 it prepared to the British Forries.

McGregor claimed a declaration that the Board was estopped from that the Board was estopped from that the Board was estopped from the Board was employer under the agreement of its wholly-owned subsidiary. SUKL, all the property rights and liabilities comprised in the undertaking at perty, rights and liabilities comprised in the undertaking at the undertaking at the contraction of its was the part of its was shareholding of contract was made. and the Board sold its shareholding of contract was made. And the Board's old its SIKL, SHL's parent company, to British Forries.

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lished a shipping and international services division (SISD) to manage its shipping interests and services, including a harbour at Parkeston Quay.

The SISD required a ramp to enable container traffic to drive on and off vessels berthed at the quay.

On November 1 1978 a contract was made between Cleveland Bridge and construction of the design and construction of the ramp. With the Board's approval Cleveland Bridge and Engineering was employed as subcontract was SUKL. Later still, the Board assemble the ramp.

Under the main contract the subsidiary.

Index treats the business.

There were two simple questions, if McGregor had known of the novations when they occurred, would its subsequent to an end. Subcontract proceedings and McGregor were compromised, but McGregor required arbitration against the Board. It was only when those proceedings became active in August 1984, that the Board for the main contract was SUKL. Later still, the Board asserted that the employer was not SUKL. Subsidiary.

In other the were two simple questions, if McGregor had known of the novations when they occurred, would its subsequent to an end. Subcontract proceedings and McGregor were compromised, but McGregor required arbitration against the Board in the Board in the Board in the Board on McGregor required arbitration against the Board in the Boa

and assemble the ramp.

Under the main contract the "employer" was defined to mean the Board. The engineer meant seheme under the Transport Act the "schemes made under the Acts of 1963 and 1981, and there was nothing McGregor could have

and Vandyk)

By Rachel Davies

APPOINTMENTS

Moves at French Kier

FRENCH KIER HOLDINGS FRENCH KIER HOLDINGS
has made the following changes within its subsidiary companies:
At Kier International Mr M. B.
Jardine has been appointed managing director in succession to Mr W. Fox who remains chairman and a director of French Kier Holdings. Mr Jardine was appointed a director of Kier International in September 1994 At French Kier Conber 1984. At French Kier Con-struction Mr D. B. Sheppard has retired as a director. He will con-tinue to carry out limited marketing duties.

NEVI BALTIC has appointed Mr Mlehael Goddard as manag-ing director. Mr Mark Glatman and Mr Harry Hyman have been appointed as executive directors.

Mr M. J. Shelley, who joined The Royal Trust Company of Canada in December 1984 as senior investment manager, has been appointed to the board of THE ROYAL TRUST COMPANY OF CANADA FUND MANAGE-

appointed managing director of BEP.

Levi Strauss Epropean president. Mr Robin Dow, has been appointed chief executive and chairman-designate of AIDCOM INTERNATIONAL'S research division. He will join Aidcom on November 18. After a three-month transition period he will also become executive chairman of the research division and will also join the main Aidcom board. Mr Geoffrey Roughton will remain chairman of Aidcom's research interests during the transition period and will then step down to become part-time on a non-executive basis. He will continue to be available appointed for the Continue to be available appointed for the Ronald G. Pearce as general manager in succession to Mr Larry G. Dare. Mr Pearce will also become managing director. He was formerly general manager—special operations with Procter & Gamble. On the manager—special operations with Procter & Gamble.

Will also become managing director. He was formerly general manager—special operations with Procter & Gamble.

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Will also become anager—special operations with Procter & Gamble.

Will also become anager—special operations with Procter & Gamble.

Will also become anager—special oper will continue to be available as a consultant.

Mr Michael Bradley has been appointed to the board of RED-FEARN NATIONAL GLASS as an executive director. He will take over as sales and marketing director on January 1 from Mr H. W. Williamson, who will remain on the board until his normal date of retirement in April.

European business, having pre-viously been sales and marketing as company secretary until his director of Scammell Motors.

PRODUCTION.

Dr Basil Vassilion has been retired as a director. He will continue to carry out limited marketing duties.

**EAGLE STAR PROPERTIES has appointed Mr Brias Williams managing director and Mr Christopher N. Jones as joint managing director.

**Dr Bash Vassilion has been named regional director for the ROHM AND HAAS COMPANY. He has been with the company for 25 years, and was business director for industrial chemicals and plastics in Europe. Dr Vassiliou is based in London.

GRANVILLE & CO has appointed Mr Michael Proudlock as chief executive of the Granville Modern Management Trust. He was regional director of County Bank in Birmingham. Mr John Singer has been appointed an assistant director for continental European corporate finance activities and in the Euramtech project being carried out by Granville & Co in conjunction with the EEC Commission. He was previously finance director of Central and Sheerwood and will remain a nonexecutive director of that company. Mr David Webb has joined Granville Investment Management from Union Bank of Switzerland as an additional investment manager with special responsibility for pension fund business.

PROCTER & GAMBLE has appointed Mr Ronald G. Pearce

Stewart Wrightson Holdings, has been appointed a non-executive director of ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL INSURANCE SOCIETY. Mr L. B. Cooke has retired from the board.

Mr R. W. Giles has been appointed to the board of LESSER DESIGN & BUILD as construction director in succession to Mr Bill Wheeler, who retires at the end of November.

Mr Robert Ayling has been remain on the board until his normal date of retirement in April.

**

Mr John Vandore has joined under secretary (legal) at the SIMON ENGINEERING DUDLEY, West Midlands, as sales and marketing director. He was with Leyland Trucks as head of director, is to retire in the Euronean business. having pre-

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FINANCIAL TIMES SCOTLAND SURVEY

November 27, 1985

For jurther details please contact: KENNETH SWAN on 01-226 4139 FINANCIAL TIMES Europe's Business Newspaper

F.T. CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 5,866

1 April showers in Wells? (6-5) 7 Flatfish expert (3) 9 First capital gains tax in 10 Barker spotted alongside Berkshire (5)

coach (9) coach (8)

11 For this rough-and-tumble shop early, with freedom (9)

12 It has to go back on the

13 IOW's coastal feature not entirely uncalled for (7) 15 Drawing team that gives beef to England's openers

Standard (6)

14 Member is overdue to do work of the house (9)

16 Holding hands here? (8)

17 Rue Simon—out of the way address in Paris (8)

address in Paris (8)

15 Drawing team that gives beef to England's openers
(4)

18 Advanced in years, some manage deck-games (4)
20 Enthusiast with perfectly good 'eadlight in New York State (7)

23 Grand deficit to explain

address in Paris (8)

19 For which anglers need a lead? —— (7)

18 Advanced in years, some in Davy Jones's locker (7)

21 Stuff chucked out in English stage production (6)

22 Classic place to start to find such a devastator (6)

23 Grand deficit to explain

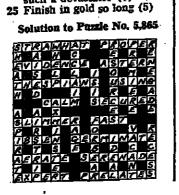
State (7)
23 Grand deficit to explain

away (5) 24 Old Bill in France (9) 26 Sick, having his masque in

disarray (9)
27 Picture, for example, a motorway going from east to 28 New tap and fitting (3) 29 Device for the detection of low tars (4-7)

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1 An article on science that is severely critical (8) 2 Judge of a fipple-flute (8) 3 Inert form of chemical (5)



these odd walks (7)

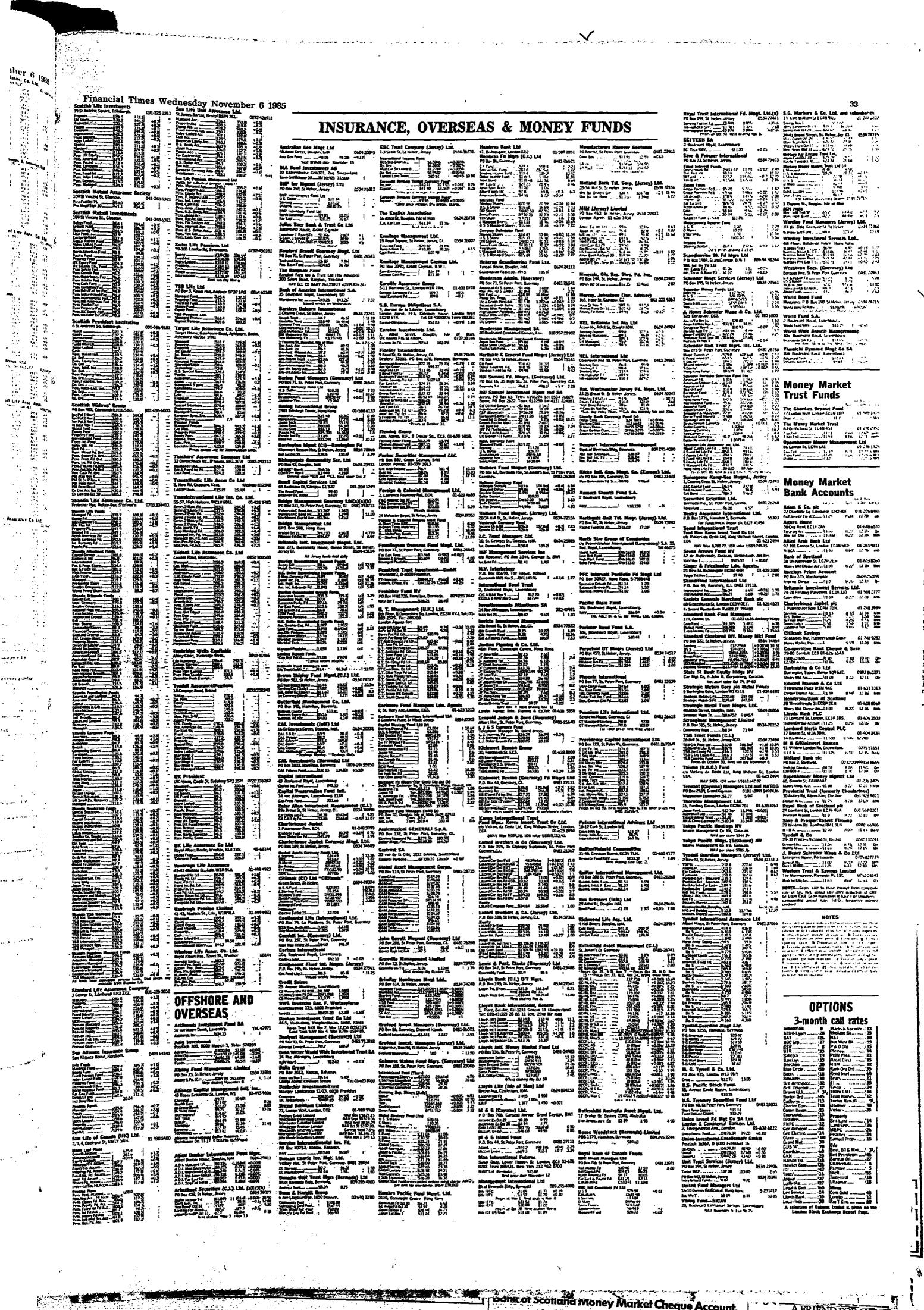
(54)

5 Call when quarry comes into view (5-2)

6 Joint best afore it is cut up ?

7 Degree — first, perhaps — required for these banks? (6)
8 Large headline for the

Con a time



Tin pact creditors await their fate

BANKERS AND metal traders around the world will be from Canada, Bank of Nova nervously awaiting the outcome of today's meeting of the International Tin Council, which has gesellschaft, the West German gesellschaft gesellschaft, the West German gesellschaft gesellsc gathered in London for a second attempt to solve the tin market crisis.

The main question in their minds is whether the tin council's 22 members will meet the debts the ITC has run up in its efforts to support tin prices above free market levels. The 16 financial institutions thich have lent money to the TTC, taking tin as security, are between them owed just over £300m. The biggest loans are believed to have been advanced by the Malaysian banks. Bank Bumiputra and Malayan Banking.
The 12 other banks involved

are-Arab Banking Corpora-tion, ANZ, ABN of the Netherlands, Banque Indosuez of France, Arbuthnot Latham, Kleinwort Benson. Standard Chartered and TSB ments varies greatly from a Metals of the UK, Bangkok Bank from maximum of 10,000 tonnes for Rudolf

Crisis causes problems for

rubber accord

gency stockpile.

provisions, Into said.

At the last council meeting in

August. consumer members

declared they would meet their contributions to the contin-

gency stockpile in cash, while some producers requested Inro

to discuss with banks about extending loans and taking warrants as security.

sian Government-owned ones, have been accepting tin warrants to finance a major part of the tin sotckpile held by the

International Tin Council, and

they would be heavily exposed in the event of a collapse of tin Some Inro consuming coun-

tries at yesterday's meeting, informally sounded out to pro-ducers on an early resumption

of renegotiation of a second

The current pact expires at the end of this month, and has

been extended by another two

can. Mr Harvey Adams, as

rubber agreement.

Banks, including two Malay-

metals company, have also lent the ITC money. Sir Adam Ridley, a director

of Hambros Bank, acting as spokesman for the 16 lenders, said that they were all large enough to cope with any possible losses.

In addition to its bank becausings the ITC has out.

borrowings, the ITC has out-standing forward contracts with brokers on the London Metal Exchange and others for some 68,000 tomes of tin, which the council's buffer stock manager has agreed to buy at just under

fig. 000 a tonne, or a total of over £600m.

The bulk of these contracts—for about 52,000 tonnes—is with ring-dealing members of the London Metal Exchange, the world's leading metals market. The size of these ITC commit-

one member to a few hundred tonnes for others. The traders also differ in the degree to which their contracts to sell tin to the ITC are matched by contracts to buy tin from other LME brokers or elsewhere.

contracts to buy the from other

LME brokers or elsewhere.

The traders involved are 15
of the 28 ring-dealing members:
Amalgamated Metal Corporation
(owned by Preussag of West
Germany). Henry Bath (MIM
of Australia), Boustead Davis
of Gernald Metals, US1; Gill and
Trading (F. D. and F. Man,
Trading (F. D. and F. Man,
UK); Lazmet (Trans-World
Metals Hotdings, UK); Maclaine
Twatson (Drexel Burnham Lambert Croup, US): Metals (privately-owned, UK); Metallgeselschaft (Metalgeselischaft, West
Mocatta Commercial (Standard
Chartered Bank); J. H. Rayner
(Mincing Lane) (S. & W. Berisford)

The traders involved are 15
ducers. Among them is believed to be Manilal, a well-diversified Malaysian trading company with interests in palm oil and rubber and property as well as tin.
Few, if any, of these bankers, brokers and traders will lose everything owed to them, even if the tin council collapses and sinks without trade. But all of them could be left holding stocks of tin which will be worth far below the £8,140 a tonne at which the price was tonne at which

(Mincing Lane) (S. & W. Beris-

Canada).

The tin council also has out The tin council also has out-standing contracts outside the LME ring—notably with trading companies in south-east Asia, in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand, the leading tin pro-ducers. Among them is believed to be Manilal, a well-diversified Malaysian trading company with interests in palm oil and rubber and property as well as tin.

ment with the International Tin Council, as was incorrectly stated in the Financial Times ford, UK); Shearson Lehman Council, Metals (American Express, US), stated in Rudolf Wolff (Noranda, yesterday.

Brazil faces big coffee losses

BY ANDREW WHITLEY IN RIO DE JANEIRO

By Wong Sulong in Kuala Lumpu THE CRISIS in the tin market is causing problems for the International Natural Rubber Organisation (Inro). Delegates the country's coffee production next year, though they have from the organisation's 32 members, who ended a meeting relieved fears of a real disaster.
Four months of drought are here yesterday, have been told that banks now want guarantees thought to have reduced output by as much as a third compared from member governments, and not rubber stock warrants, to with this year's bumper crop of back loans to finance the pro-posed 150,000 tonne contin-30m bags (60 kilos each).

Unofficial forecasts from the The issue of the contingency Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC) rubber stockpile has come up because the buffer stock is approaching its 400,000 tonne limit. It is now believed to be close to 375.000 tonnes. At the meeting, "All council members reaffirmed their commitment to fulfil promptly their financial obligations" on the stockpile

IBC, putting the likely crop next year at anywhere between 15m and 18m bags: an estimate which, if realised, would virtually eliminate stocks available the following year and make the country seriously vulnerable to frost damage.

Cotton has been badly affected in Sao Paulo state, with only 15,000 out of an initially forecast 300,000 hectares planted to date. In addition, the production of black beans, oranges, maize and milk have all been affected—the latter already provoking some domestic shortages.

Maize import requirements

Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC)
put 1986/87 coffee production
at between 19m and 23m bags.
No formal announcement from
the IBC on the full extent of the
damage is expected before the
end of the month.

Coffee brokers and exporters
are more pessimistic than the

Maize import requirements
are expected to rise as a result
of the drought, from the previously anticipated 400,000
tonnes to nearer 1m tonnes.
To the relief of the IBC, local
wholesale coffee prices have
over the past few days begun
to slide back from their recent
neaks, provoked by the drought. peaks, provoked by the drought. But the Government is still concerned about Brazilian lack of competitiveness, and may take steps to release the 2.5m bags currently in the hands of the IBC on to the domestic market.

Mr Bra Kanon, the new presi

built up in intensity after down in the local industry.

HEAVY RAINS since the weekend in the main coffee producing regions of Brazil—Sao
Paulo, Southern Minas Gerais
and Parana State—have come
too late to prevent a big fall in gained more than £400 a tonne in a little over a month as concern grew about the Brazilian drought damage, with the January position gaining £205 last week alone. That position fell £79.50 to £1,913.50 a tonne on Monday and the decline con-tinued to £1,888 a tonne yesterday morning. But the price recovered to end the day virtually unchanged.

Peter Blackburn writes in Abidjan: Denis Bra Kanon, the Ivory Coast agricultural min-ister, said here yesterday that African coffee producers would support any "concrete measures" taken by the International Coffee Organisation to solve problems of undershipments and cut price sales to non-member countries and help

3C on to the domestic market. Mr Bra Kanon, the new presi-Coffee for immediate delivery dent of the 25 member Inter while the rains, which began in much of the interior of Sao Paulo about 10 days ago and has forced a 60 per cent shutt- while up in intensity after a surface of the consumer countries must first agree on the question of sanctions before asking for the support of producer countries

Tighter UK pesticide rules proposed

ing and use of pesticides. The consultation process is to finish by the end of next February.

The consultation process is to finish there will be control over all cides."

The closing date for written comments is December 31 1985, and the legislation (part of the

THE UK Government is inviting pesticides. All pesticide sup- and their employees have consultation on its proposed pliers will have to submit their received adequate instructions legislation to control the makproducts for approval before and guidance in the safe, effecting them for sale, and two and humane use of pesti-

comments is December 31 1985, Use of pesticides will be with a further two months being Food and Environment Protecturally controlled through allowed for follow-up discussions follow-up foll come into force by next June.

there will be "a general obliga- 682, Ministry of Agriculture, tion on all those who use pesti- Fisheries and Food, Great Westbufferstock manager, from this month, attended the Inro talks series of mostly informal concides in the course of their minster House, Horse for the first time.

The regulations replace a tion on all those who use pesus minster House, Horse for the first time.

Mary Frings on the problems of the uranium industry

Nuclear reactions in the US

THE RECENT signing of uranium supply contracts between Britain's Central and two U.S. companies is a surge in US reactor doxical situation in which export markets are still being found for U.S. uranium which found for U.S. uranium which is being priced off the home market by cheap imports.

There used to be restrictions on importing uranium into the U.S. except by foreign utilities for enrichment and re-export. The restrictions were lifted in 1975 as a surge in US reactor orders created fears of a future uranium shortage, and the DoE some of the outstanding \$66n in construction costs.

Until the mid-70s, the US Government held a monopoly on additional enrichment facilities uranium enrichment for the some of the outstanding \$66n in construction costs.

Until the mid-70s, the US Government held a monopoly on additional enrichment facilities uranium enrichment for the conflict of interest between its some of the outstanding \$66n in construction costs.

Until the mid-70s, the US Government held a monopoly on uranium enrichment policy, in an effort to win back foreign sales and recoupt some of the outstanding \$66n in construction costs.

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Until the mid-70s, the US Government held a monopoly on uranium enrichment policy in an effort to win back foreign sales and recoupt sales and recoupt some of the outstanding \$66n in the mode of \$183 to although the policy in an e

Everest Minerals Corporation to handle the expected demand. Everest Minerals Corporation of Corpus Christi, Texas, and However, since the accident at Three Mile Island in 1979.

However, Colorado, will each of Colorado, will each deliver 3.5m lbs of raw reactor and more than 100 canada. South Africa, Niger orders have been cancelled. Although heavily-industrialised Although heavily-industrialised to handle the expected demand. Inon-communist world, but has added to the producers' case inon-communist world, but has added to the producers' case inon-communist world, but has added to the producers' case inon-communist world, but has added to the producers' case inon-communist world, but has added to the producers' case inon-communist world, but has added to the producers' case inon-communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in communist world, but has added to the producers' case in community i a 10 year period beginning in Although heavily-industrialised 1987. The CEGB move follows areas such as Chicago are 60 its decision to discontinue purper cent dependent on nuclear chases in Namibia because of the political unrest in southern the political unrest in southern ton nation wide is only 15 per Africa. The Board said it was cent, with a scheduled rise to "delighted" to have found two companies in the U.S. which could compete on a world-wide cost imports are being unfairly companies in the U.S. which could compete on a world-wide basis and which had long term aspirations. There are not many of them left.

US producers claim the low-cost imports are being unfairly subsidised by foreign governments. But US-mined uranium is still being exported, either through soles contracts like

Although the U.S. is rich in national the U.S. is rice to uranium resources, the ores are not generally of high grade and recovery by conventional methods is not cheap, while solution mining. although highly efficient and less capital and labuor-intensive, is not suitable for all ore-hearing structure. able for all ore-bearing struc-

Since 1980, world prices for uranium have tumbled more than 60 per cent from a high of \$43 a lb, and three-quarters of the 40-plus conventional US mining companies have gone out of business. Many of the abandond mines have flooded and may never again be opera-tional. Employment in uranium exploration, production and milling has declined from 22,000 to

exploration, production and milling has declined from 22,000 to under 3,500.

BISMUTH: European free market, min 95 per cent, \$ per pound, in warehouse, ingots, fallen by some 70 per cent.

According to the Department of Energy (DoE) more than two-thirds of the uranium consumed in the US in 1988 will more than two-sumed in the US in 1988 will more than two-sunded in the US in 1988 will could market, min 95.99 per cent, \$ per tonne unit more than two-sunded in the US in 1988 will could market, min 95.99 per cent, \$ per tonne unit more than two-sunded in the US in 1988 will could market, min 95.99 per cent, \$ per tonne unit more than two-sunded in warehouse, 10.0-7.0-7.00.

Whouse, 2.65-2.70.

SELENIUM: European free m from foreign suppliers, current trends

per cent dependent on nuclear power generation, the proportion nation-wide is only 15 per

Government held a monopoly or uranium enrichment for the non-communist world, but has added to the producers' case by the Energy Secretary, Mr

The DoE has been able to offer new, more attractive enrichment contracts by using stockpiled uranium—a move which US producers say is detrimined their interests and their interests and offer new, more attractive some qualification. Certain companies working high-grade deposits or using high-grade deposits or using techniques are marginally viable but there are not The DoE has been able to viable. mental to their interests and contravenes federal law requir-

ments. But US-mined uranium is still being exported, either through sales contracts like those signed with the CEGB or through European companies which have entered into joint ventures with U.S. producers in order to secure a reliable course of supply.

Matters came to a head on September 19 when a federal judge in Denver, ruled that since January 1984 the DoE had entered into enrichment contracts illegally and that as of October 1, all such contracts, both domestic and foreign, were multi and void. This left over 130 source of supply.

In the battle for survival US null and void. This left over 130 uranium mining companies feel contracts with an estimated they have been fighting not value of \$27bn hanging in the only foreign governments but air, and the industry is

WEEKLY METALS PRICES

Metal Bulletin

ANTIMONY: European free
market. 99.6 per cent, \$ per
tonne, in warehouse, 2,7802,860.

BISMUTH: European free

BISMUTH: European free

SELENIUM: European free Metal Bulletin

prices as supplied by market, min 99.99 per cent, \$

MERCURY: European free value 3 per pound UO, 16.00.

contravenes federal law requiring the viability of the domestic uranium industry to be maintained.

mental to their interests and many training techniques are marginally viable, but there are not enough of them to guarantee eccurity of supply in the event of import disruption. Product Matters came to a head on prices would need to double to eptember 19 when a federal enable the rest of the industry

enable the rest of the industry to survive, according to Mr Ray Larson, president of Dallasbased Uranium Resources.

The declaration of non-viability must trigger a federal response. Congressional committees are currently reviewing both a "jobs bill," which seeks to have the Government pick up one third of the estimated \$1 bn bill for cleaning up radioactive uranium mill tailings scattered across the West, and a "domestic contents bill" that would require utilities to buy at least 75 per cent of their least 75 per cent of their uranium from U.S. producers. Mr Thomas Neff, director of energy studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, told Congress that although the domestic contents bill could

seen to be vital to national security.

LONDON **MARKETS**

THERE WERE DO SINWORKS on the London commodity markets yesterday. Coffee settled down after the sharp fails prompted by Brazil's drought-breaking rains on drought-breaking rains on Monday and nearby prices ended liftle changed. Cocoa prices were somewhat lower reflecting saggestions that the Ivory Cassi's 1983/86 crop could reach 550,000 tonnes, up from earlier estimates. Sugar prices were lifted modestly by news of Egyptian and Syrian buying and talk of India returning to the market as a buyer soon. On the London Metal Exchange prices were generally firmer with the biggest rise coming in zinc. Monday's fall was wiped out with the cash price gaining nomays fall was wiped out with the eash price gaining £10.50 to £469 a tonne ou European trade buying and easier sterling against the dollar. Lead was also higher on trade short-covering and eash metal ended £7.50 up at £400 a tonne A £60 rise £409 a tonne. A £9.50 rise which lifted cash aluminium to £663 a tonne was put down
mainly to the currency factor.
LME prices supplied by
Amalgamated Metal Trading.

ALUMINIUM

	close: b'ur. 1 —	High/low
in to 5 months	662,5-3,5 +9, 686,5-7 +9,	5 661 661 25 687,5 681
(651 5-2). .5), settle: close: 687	closing (am): (tr:se mands 50 ment 661.5 (652). -8 : 15,200 tonnes.	5.5-6 (675-

digher grade	Unoffic close	7 +or	High	.low
Cash 5 months	952-5 977 8	+2.0	960.5 981 9	958,5 76
Official clos (948-9), three settlement 9	nonth	s 979-E	D (97	15).

928-30 +7.0 932-932 959,5-60 +6,75-960-960 Official closing (am): Cash 532-3 (920-2), three months 560-1 (850-3), settlement 933 (922), Turnover: 19.350 toxenes. US Producer prices 65.50-70.00 cents per lb.

LEAD

£ per	tonite !	Dec.
Cosh 275-4 3 months 276-5	+7.5 279.5:277 +4.57 282:273	Marc May July
(262-4), three mon	(am): Cesh 279-80 hths 282-5 (271.25-) (264). Final Kerb	Sept. Dec., Mar,
ciesse 277.5-8.	tornes. US Spot:	tonne ICC

	Unofficial + o closerp.m.) — £ per tonne	High/low
2 Granthe	2830-40 :72.0 2890 90026.5	2875/2820 '2965:2860
(2905-10).	closing (em): C three months 29 meat 2870 (2910) 5-70.	00-05 (2905-

High grade	ciose (p.n £ per	tonne	igh: low
Cash 3 months	.408-10 418-9	+10.5 +8.0 4	23,416
(390-1).	hree mon	am): Cash the 418-9 . Final Ker	(402-3).

GOLD

Gold fell \$1 an ounce from Monday's close in the London bullion market yesterday to finish at \$3243-\$25. The metal opened at the same level and traded between a high of \$325-3252 and a low of \$3243-3243. Once again trading was rather dull and featuraless. Glose \$3241₂.325 Opening \$3241₂.325 M'ni'g fix. \$324.55 Aft'n'n fix \$324.60 (£226.2261₂) (£2251₂.226₁ (£225.774₎ (£226,092₁

GOLD AND PLATINEM COINS

SILVER

gner fo rilion 5 cont bre: sp onth 6 11.15c,	wag or spot market equival oot 607, 18.8c, up 0.05 7c. The	delive yester ents of town down ic; and	ry in the firm of	he Lon t 422. cing le 'Sc; th six-mo	don SSp. vels ree- onth i,3c,
4 ¹ 20 (/c. The 607-610 7-610c)	c) and			
LVER	-, Bulli	~~~~	or! L6	LE.	a. Lar

per Fixing — p.m. troy Price Unofficil LME-Turnover: 37 (18) lots of 10,000 x2. Cash high/low 422; three months high 436, low 435. Final kerb high

RUBBER

PHYSICALS—The London market opened slightly higher, quiet throughout the day and closed on a steader note, reports Lawis and Peet, Closing prices (buyers): spot 56 00p (55.20p); December 53.75p (53.00p): January 54.22p (53.50p). The Kuala Lumpur lob price for RSS No 1 was 178.5 (779.5) cente a kg and for SMR 20 was 158.5 (159.0).

JUTE

JUTE—Nov/Dec ehipment c and f Dundee BTC \$455, BWC \$450, BTD \$455, BWC \$450, BTD \$450, BWD \$440, BTD \$410, BWD \$400; c and f Dundee—ex India October shipment 40 in 10 oz \$15.83, 40 in 7.5 oz £11.50; B twills £44.43.

INDICES

FINANCIAL TIMES Nov. 5 . Nov. 4 M'th ago Yearage

_* . 251.45 ; 293,30 (Base: July 1 1952=190) REUTERS

Nov. 4 . Nov. 1 M'th ago Yearage 1735.9 1737,5 1706,2 1893.4 (Base: September 18 1931 = 100) **DOW JONES** Dow Nov. Nov. Month Year James 4 I ago I ago

Spot 119,28 118,51 114,76 125,38 Fut. 121,49 122,57 117,06 128,99 (Base: Decamber 31 1931 - 100)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

		Nov. 5 1985	+ cr	Month
	METALS	7863		#B0
	Aluminium Free Mkt	£1100	· 16.0	£1100
	Copper,	9 1000-56	+ 13.0	9 10-46 B
	Cosh h Grade	2952.5	+2.0	1993
	3 mths	£977.5	+5.0	£1016.5
	Gold Troy oz	5524.75	-0.5	3326.2
	3 mths	r276.25	14.37	C286 8
	Nickei	i	•	1
	Free Mkt			
	Palladium oz Platinum oz	\$101,15	-0.20	\$101.0
	Quicks ver	2268-75	J-0.00	\$3.19. 2 \$2.70 7H
	Silver troy oz	428.550	+1.45	442.10
	3 months	434.25c	+1.75	454 26
	Tip cash			
	5 months Tungsten	e70 28	-04	£8697, \$66,75
	Welfram 22,8lb.	462 68	-0,	564-6B
	Zinc	£409.0	+ 10.5	£480.5
•	3 months			£486,2
				57A0

Orocas Ft. Mar. 8:1677.5 -26.8.2(811.5 Coffee Ft. Jan. 21914.0 +0.5.81847 Cotton A Index (48.05c -1.81827 Rubber (idlo) 55.00 +0.8088.00c +0.8088.00c

COCOA

closing les physicals only light noted, rep	failed to Second	C25 off appeal hand	generally a activity w	
COCOA	Yestero Clos	a .+	or Busine	

CO indicator prices (US cents per d)... Daily price for November 5: 8 {104.23}; Ruelday average for mber 8; 103.43 (103.73).

High/low 2875/2820 2965:2884	During a quiet opening robusta traded £9 higher to £5 lower in ligh volume. Experts Drawel Burchast Lambert. Activity picked up as Com
ash 2865-70 00-05 (2905- . Final Kerb	mission House buying triggered a shar rally in the alternoon and gains of \$2.35 were posted, before profit taking and mixed selling prompted a gradual repeat.

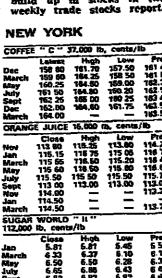
Sales: 7,400 (10,000) lots of 5 tonnes. 7,405 (10,000) lots of 5 tonnes. (CO Indicator prices (US cents per pound) for November 4: Comp daily 1979 142.42 (147.30); 15-day average 131.73 (130.33).

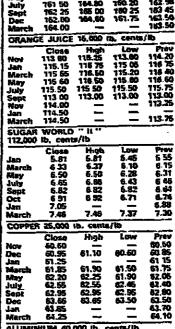
FREIGHT FUTURES

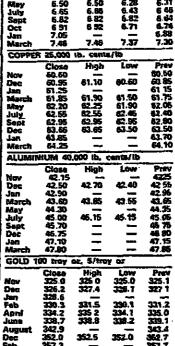
Close High/Low Prev

US MARKETS

PRECIOUS metal markets were steady, reflecting a lack of interest, although light selling based on dollar strength was offset by lower US interest rates, reports Heinold Commodities. Copper and atuminium were confined to a tight trading range awaiting a resolution to the LME tip crisis. Expectations of additional purchases by India along with recent cash interest from the Mid-East prompted a firm tone to sugar values. Cocon weakened on continued indications of a larger than expected lvory Cost crop. Cotton market traded steady to higher on light cash offers and uncertraced steamy to inquer ou-light cash offers and uncer-tainty over the status of the Delta crop. Heating oil con-tinued its retracement on expectations for another large build up in stocks in the weekly trade stocks report.



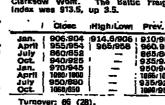




COFFEE Yesterdy's + or Business

.... 1870 1875 -- 7.5 1905 1845 1913 1915 + 0.5 1850 1888 1898 1888 -- 25.0 1850 1896 1996 -- 1896 -- 1896 1996 -- 52.0 1850 1896 1896 1905 1816 -- 67.5 1885 1805

The market opened on a steady note, despite a lack of physical market information, but the slightly higher levels met with some selling interest late morning. The alternoon market was initially steady, but rumours of Gulf/Japan business at the lower rete of \$13.25 undermined sentiment and final quotations were easier, reports Clarksow Wolft. The Battle Fraight Index was \$13.5, up 3.5.



GRAINS

Wheet and Barley markets moved 250 higher to reach new contract highs in early trading as tight physical supplies caused both domestic and

	Yesterd'y:	k + 97	Yestsreve	+ 07	
Mnth	Yesterd'y: close	; —	close] '-"	
		,			
Mov				-0,05	
Jaп'	110.00 112.65	:		+0.10	
	115,45	-0.ms	115.00	+0.25	
July	118,15	i-0,16	97.45	i =	
Sept	97.05	+0.05	97.45	+0.18	
Busi	ness done		et: Nov 1	07.85	
7.80.	Jan 110.3	.00.00	March 1	12.90-	
2.65,	May 115	.65-5.5), July	118.30	
only,	Sept 97.10 I tonnes.	-7.Ub	Sales 25		
7.30.	Jan 110.5	0-0.30.	March 1	13.15.	
3.00.	May 115	.05-5.0	D. Sent	97.45	
	Sales 211				
	DON GRAI on appling i				
34.25	Jan 138.1	D. Feb	140.20. Ma	143	
ranshi	ipment eas	t COESI	L US No 1	2 soft	٠
	nter Nov 1				
	. Feb 120.1 1 feed tob				
	Dec 112.				
teller,	Jan/Mar 1	16, Ac	rii/June 1°	18.75,	
lune/J	uly 116.25	buye	r, 239t c	Dest.	

re: US No 3 yellow/French tran-ent east coast Nov 134 seller. : English leed fob Spot 110 east coast Scotland Nov 111.25 Dec 112.75-113.25, Jan 114/ buyer/seller, Jan/Mar 116 east coast. Rest unquoted. A—Herewith todays locational sever, east coast. Rest unquoted, HGCA—Herswith todays locational ax-farm spot prices. Feed Whees: S East 103.80. S West 107.80, W Mids 103.80. Feed Barley: S East 108.10. S West 105.50, W Mids 104.80, The UK monetary coefficient for the week beginning Monday November 11 (based on HGCA calculations using four days exchange rates) is expected to remain unchanged.

Close High 328.1 231.0 330.1 232.0 333.4 333.0 336.9 236.5 341.5 SPOT PRICES SPOT PRICES—Chicago loose lard 17.00 (sumo) cents per pound. New York tin — (—) cents per pound. Handy and Harman silver bullon 608.5 (609.0) cents per troy ounce.

After a lower opening the spot November position rose on liquidation. February traded below the 100p lovel while forward positions hold their ground. The uncovered position on the spot position is 161 lots, reports CCST Commodities.

Montn close p. per kilo (deadweight) Nov...... 126.60 115.40 118.5-114.5 Feb...... 99.60 100.10 89.60 101.50 101.50 101.7-101.5 June 99.40 99.50 98.10 Oct..... 103.80 103.50 98.10 Sales: 87 (85) lots of 50 cercasos, 3.250 kg.

MEAT COMMISSION—Average fut-stock prices 11 representative markets, GB—Cattle 93.550 per kg lw (-0.2), GB—Sheep 147.41p per kg est dcw (-5.22), GB—Pigs 82.09p per kg lw (+0.47).

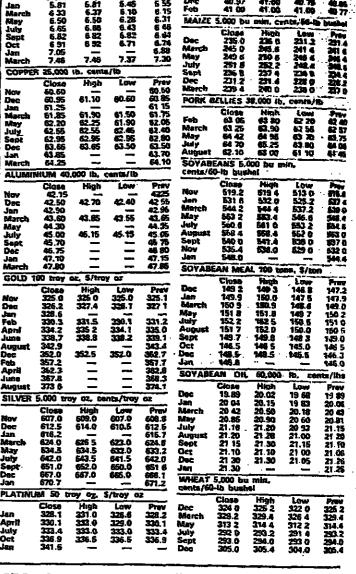
POTATOES

All positions opened firmer and in thin quiet trade gradually improved in value throughout the day to register gains of 13.30-13.90. Speculation over the eventual close together with a keen physical market for good quality amples continues to undergin this eamples continues to underpln this position, reports Coley and Harper. Yesterday's Previous Business close close done

--- 68.00 | 57.00 68.30-87.38 --- 59.50 | 68.00 | 69.50-69.38 --- 77.80 | 76.50 | 79.10-78.90 --- 83.70 | 82.10 | 84.00-82.56 Sales: 183 (134) lots of 40 tonnes, SOYABEAN MEAL The market opened 50p higher on seak sterling, reports T. G. Roddick, rices remained steady within nerrow enges closing with small gains.

.... 126.8 127.5 -0.85 127.8 130.0 -0.70 Sales: 141 (63) lots of 20 tonnes.

SUGAR LONDON DAILY PRICE—Raw suger \$143.0 (199.50), down \$1.50 (down 50.5) a tonne for November-December dolivery. White suger \$177.00, down \$1.50.
Tenders for 50,000 tenne of whites in the Middle East today kept prices steady. However New York moved onto the defensive leter, reports C. Czarnikow.



12.05

CHICAGO

LIVE HOGS 30 000 to, cents/te

\$1.66

No. 6 Yest'day's Previous Con-tract

Sales; 1.548 (3,190) jota of 50 Sales: 1.645 (3,150) force for tonnes.

Tate & Lyle delivery price for granulated basis augar was £264.0 (£205.0) a tenne for export. International Sugar Agreement—(US cents por pound fob and stowed Caribbean ports.) Prices for November 4: Daily price 5.67 (5.67): 15-day average 5.13 (5.09).

OIL

Forward Brant prices slipped in quiet trade but prompter prices held stasdy. Nymex opened 22c down for Oceanber but received 10c by 1.30 pm EST. Within the petroleum products merket gas/oil prices fell on leck of demand and weak futures. This slightly destabilised naphths, Heavy first distributed for increased demand—Petroleum Arous.

Latest + or -CRUDE OIL-FOB (5 per barrel)-Nov.

* December Petroleum Argus estimates GAS OIL FUTURES

Turnever: 1,672 (1,000) 1008 or 100 tones.

CRUDE Off. FUTURES (Brent-blend index 5 abrrol): (month, bid/ask, change, high/law). Dec 28 40/22 40; dec 27, 28,87/28,49; Jan 27,56/27,57, -0.22, 27,73/27,52; Fob 27,05/27,07, -0.28, 27,25/27,02; Mar 28,60/28,50, -0.13, 28,77/28,77, Apr 26,16/20,29, 26,50/28,50; May 25,25/26,15, Turnever: 112 loss of 1,000 barrals.

33 a i

CURRENCIES, MONEY and CAPITAL MARKETS

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Dollar up in quiet trading

The dollar finished towards its best level of the day in currency markets yesterday. Trading was thin for much of the time and there appeared to be little incentive to push the dollar outside a trading range of DM 2.59-2.62. There were no new economic factors to affect trading although US bonds were weaker on US bonds were weaker on rumours of a revision to employ-ment figures outside the farming

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}} = \mathcal{Q}_{\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{A}}}$

the sound towns

10 to 10 to

POUND SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST POUND

DOLLAR SPOT -- FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

| New 6 | Spreed | Close | Clo

Yen per 1,000: French Fr per 10: Lira per 1,000: Beig Fr per 100.

EURO-CURRENCY INTEREST RATES

£ IN NEW YORK

Nov. 5 Prev. close

Sector.

Early trading attracted a few buyers and the dollar was sold off after the start of trading in New York only to be bought back before the close. A firmer Y207.75 despite federal funds rate helped to officials suggesting a desire to officials suggesting a desire to officials. before the close. A firmer Federal funds rate helped to encourage some short covering but the continued threat of central bank intervention managed to deter any attempt to push the dollar above its recent trading range. In addition there was speculation as to whether this week's meeting of the Federal open market committee would herald a reduction in the US discount rate. Many dealers remained convinced, however, that a reduction would be more likely much nearer the end of the year.

The dollar closed at DM 2.6125 down from a high of DM 2.6145 down from a high of DM 2.6145

overall, showing little reaction to rumours of lower oil prices. It was lower against the dollar It was lower against the dollar but picked up ground against most other currencies. Against the dollar it alipped to \$1.4330, a fall of 30 points, but improved against the D-mark to DM 3.7450 from DM 3.7400. It was also higher against the Swiss franc at SFr 3.0925 from SFr 3.0775 and FFr 11.4175 compared with FFr 11.4000. Against the yen it slipped to Y298.0 from Y299.25.

D-MARK — Trading range against the dollar in 1985 is 3.4518 to 2.5960. October average 2.6443. Exchange rate index 128.1 compared with 119.7 six months

The D-mark recovered from the day's lows as selling pressure pushed the dollar weaker in late trading in Frankfurt. The US unit had been marked up during the morning but met resistance as dealers earned arriging to as dealers seemed anxious to keep the dollar within its recent trading range in the absence of any fresh factors. It closed at DM 2.6040 down from a beak of DM 2.6140 and only slightly up from Monday's close of

CURRENCY MOVEMENTS

OTHER CURRENCIES

CURRENCY RATES Nov. 5 . 2 . 5 DM YEN FFT. SFE HFL Line CS . B.Fr. 1. 1.433 3.746 298.0 11.42 3.083 4.225 2585 1.966 75.65 0.698 1. 2.613 208.0 7.968 2.151 2.948 1762 1.374 52.79 DM 0.267 0.863 1. 79.57 3.049 0.823 1.188 674.2 0.525 20.90 YEN 5.356 4.809 12.57 1000. 38.51 10.34 14.18 8475. 6.606 253.9 0.875. 1.265 3.880 261.0 10.1 2.700 3.700 2812 1.724 66.26 0.884 0.465 1.215 26.67 3.704 1.1371 819.1 0.639 24.54 0.237 0.339 0.886 70.53 2.702 0.736 1, 597.6 0.460 17.91 0.386 0.568 1485; 118.0 4.527 1.211 1.678 1000, 0.786 29.95 0 \$ 0.508 0.788 1.902 151.4 5.800 1.866 2.146 1283 1. 38.45 8 Fr. 1.322 1.894 4.950 395.9; 15.09 4.075; 6.585 3388 2.602; 100.

9.00 am 80.4

8 N/A 6.64628 - 172.414 135.674 1014 8.42690 6.63992 4 2.30940 1.81714 2014 164.999 130.024 - 0.907807 0.714702 • CS/SDR rate for November 4: 1,47500.

±1.5425 ±1.8421 ±1.1463 ±1.3654 ±1.5162 ±1.8673 ±4.0658 44,8320 8,12257 2,23840 6,86402 2,62208 0,724578 1520,60

MONEY MARKETS

Sterling U.S. Dollar... Can Dollar... O Guilder Sw. Franc... Deutschmrk

Tight conditions in New York

834-9 834-9 718-714 9-91e 8-818

413-411 103-1018 133-1318

878-918 878-919 7-716 914-934 814-848

7.10 7.21 7.57 7.70 8.37 8.63 8.95 9.19 9.36 9.54 9.54

Federal funds remained firm at 8th per cent in New York before lunch. Settlement for bills and bonds bought at recent US Treasury auctions is keeping credit conditions tight. Payment for \$3bn of 142-day bills sold Monday and for \$4.78bn of Monday and for \$4.78bn of 12.4 per cent from 12.6 per cent. Week has so far caused disturtions, and apart from keeping the 20-year bonds auctioned last week has so far caused distortions, and apart from keeping the Federal funds rate firm, is also likely to result in high borrowings by banks at the Federal Reserves discount window. The tight conditions may also disguise whether the Federal Open Market Committee meeting this week has eased monstary policy. There is some expectation the Federal Reserve will cut its discount rate, but the timing is discount rate, but the timing is NEW YORK RATES very uncertain.

In Frankfart the Bundesbank drained liquidity from the German banking system, accepting bids totalling DM 10.4bn for two security repurchase agreements, as replacement for agreements of for of Treasury Bills & Bonds
One month
fon Three month
on Six month ments, as replacement for agreements of DM 7.1bn. On bids of DM 7.1bn the authorities allocated DM 5.7bn on a 28-day agreement, and on bids of DM 15.6bn provided DM 4.7bn for 63 days. Call money was steady at 4.50 per cent ahead of the result of the tender. In Zurich leading Swiss banks

cut interest rates on customer MONEY RATES

4.45.4.55 4.6.4.7 4.8.4.9 4.9.1.6 91.9.34 91.9 Frankfurt... Paris...... Zurich.....

In the afternoon another £291m bank hills were purchased out-right at unchanged rates, through £259m in band 2; £3m in band 3; and £29m in band 4. in band 3; and £29m in band 4.

UK money supply figures to
mid-October had no impact. A
rise of ½ per cent in sterling M3
was within expectations, and
although the fall of ½ per cent
in M0 was encouraging the
market no longer expects money
supply to have any immediate

(11,00 a.m. Nov. 5)

three-month bank bills were FT LONDON INTERBANK FIXING Six months U.S. dollars bid 8 1/16 offer 83/18 The fixing rates are the arithmetic warns, rounded to the asyrest constituents, of the bid and offered rates for \$10m quoned by the market to burstee Bank, Sanque Nationale de Paris and Morgan Guaranty Trust

UK clearing banks base lending rate 11½ per cent since July 20

effect on interest rates. Three

month interbank was unchanged at 114-1111 per cent, and dis-count houses buying rates for

LONDON MONEY RATES

Over 7 days Three Six I night notice Months Months Months | 112-12 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-115 | 113-1 Interbalit.
Starling Obs.
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Company Depos.
Trassury Bills (Buy).
Space Trade Bills (Buy).
Fine Trade Bills (Buy).
Pollsr (Db. SDR Linked Depos

Treasury Bills (sell): one-month 115 per cent; three-months 111 per cent. Bank Bills (sell): one-month 175 per cent; three-months 175 per cent. Treasury Bills: Average tender rate of discount 11.1373 per cent. ECGD Fixed Finance IV: October 2 to November 6 (inclusive): 11.508 per cent. Local authority and Finance Houses seven days' notice, others seven days' fixed. Finance Houses Base Refe 12 per cent from November 1 1955. Bank Deposit Rates for sums at seven days' notice 6.25-8.55 per cent (net). Certificates of Tex Deposits (Series 5): Daposits £100,000 and over held under one month 115 per cent; one-three months 115 per cent; three-aix months 115 per cent; sha-shae months 116 per cent; three-aix months 116 per cent; three-aix months 116 per cent; three-incomplete in the 100,000 10% per cent from October 2. Deposits held under Series 5 11 per cent, Deposits withdrawn for cesh 7% per cent.

FUTURES AND

LONDON

me 2,424 (3,701)

Close High 82.03 92.04 91.84 91.85 91.54 91.55 91.18 91.18 90.82 90.81 plums 3,750 (3,750 us day's open int 2

OPTIONS US Treasury bond futures ended on a Strong note on the London International Financial Futures Exchange yesterday, and Eurodollar futures were Close High
Dec 112-28 113-00
March 112-30 and Eurodollar futures were unchanged, after an active day in both contracts. The December Treasury bond opened at 78-28, and weakened on disappointment that Chicago failed in take the price above 70-00 overnight. It touched a low of 78-17, but then rallied strongly, to a contract high of 79-15, before closing at 79-06 compared with 78-21 on Monday. Buying demand followed rumours sweeping US markets that last Friday's rise of 414,000 in the sweeping US markets that last Friday's rise of 414,000 in the number of people employed in the non-farming sector was exaggerated, while it was also suggested that two oil producers, including Venezuela, were about to cut oil prices.

December Eurodollars opened only slightly above the technical support level of 92.000, but after weakening to 91.97 recovered before the next support point of 91.95, to finish unchanged on the day at 92.03. unchanged on the day at \$2.03.

Although the contract recovered it failed to move ahead
in line with bonds, because of
the firm level of the Federal
funds rate in ew York. Tight
credit conditions were the result
of settlement of recent US
Treasury auctions, involving 20year bonds last week, and 142-day
cash management bills on
Monday.

Describer long gill futures

general reaction in the market was that while a fall in sterling MO was encouraging bank lending was disappointingly high. The rise of ‡ per cent in M3 was in line with most forecasts. Three-month sterling deposit future opened unchanged at 88.55, and fel ito a low of 88.52, reflecting the decline of the pound against the dollar on the foreign exchanges. The contract finished little changed at 88.54.

Lenset High Low Prev 1.4295 1.4315 1.4280 1.4350 1.4190 1.4205 1.4170 1.4235 1.4070 1.4100 1.4070 1.4140 LIFFE-STERLING 225,000 \$ per E LIFFE-DEUTSCHE MARKS DM 125,000

STERLING INDEX 10.00 am 80.3 11.00 am. 80.3 88.4 80.4 Noon 1.00 pm 80.3 2.00 pm 88.3 80.4 3.90 pm 80.3 89.3 4.00 pm 80.3

EMS EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT RATES

TABLE 1. AGGREGATE BALANCES LIABILITIES £m £m Sterling deposits: 468 997 270 120 359 UK private sector ...
UK public sector ... 77,425 1,894 12,838 6.222 46,553 74,137

Foreign currency deposits; UK monetary sector Other UK residents Overseas residents 16,543 5,585 46,708 6,200 341 75,037 -3,009195,727 **-2,45**0 + 15 +1,019 TOTAL LIABILITIES .. -1,416 ASSETS Cash and balances with Bank of

Cash ratio deposits Other balances Market leans: UK monetary sector CD's ...

Market loans:
UK moneiary sector
Certificates of deposit 18,455 596 32,150 Advances:
UK private sector
UK public sector Other foreign currency assets* TOTAL ASSETS ...

Local authorities

Treasury bills Other bills

UK private sector UK public sector Overseas residents

Other sterling assets* Foreign currencies

Eligible liabilities .

*Includes items in suspense and in transit.

TABLE 2. INDIVIDUAL GROUP BALANCES Royal **National** Rarelays Midland Westminster Scotland Lloyds LIABILITIES £ 35,587 Total deposits: Outstanding . £ 10,872 34,847 41,841 -1,051 56.697 Change on month ... STERLING ASSETS Cash and balances with the Bank of England: 443 --60 Onistanding Change on month Market loans-UK monetary sector: 24,265 -1,133 -1086,622 +10 1,148 1,089 +104 -165356 —83 Outstanding Change on month +244British Government stocks: 3,591 +141 +89 -49-1086,767 +2,270 14,536 +176 14,912 Outstanding ... Change on menth ... ELIGIBLE LIABILITIES +336 15,708 +15 6,074

† Figures for Bank of Scotland and Standard Chartered included.

Dank of Scotland Money Market Cheque Account.

D2 SYN 4F APDJ/ Guotron U.S. TREASURY BONDS 8% \$100,000 32nds of 100% **SXI 3*1** The source UNITO you need for **COMPA** JISITION business today CHICAGO ED AS A **BERGE** Previous day's open int 5,530 (5,203) Basis quots (clean cash price of 13¹2% Treasury 2004/06 less squive-APDJ/Quotron brings you real-time financial facts and figures from the world's major equity and commodity markets, backed by the Dow Jones 90-Day News Dec 97-58 97-51 97-55 98-00
March 98 07 — 98-12
Est volume 471 (182)
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London Clearing Banks' balances

Puts Lass March 0.15 0.45 1,11 2,32 4.24 5.53 10,34

as at October 16 1985

4.05

THE TABLES below provide the first monthly indication of the trends of bank lending and deposits, ahead of the more comprehensive banking and money supply figures published later by the Bank of England. They are prepared by the London clearing banks and cover the basiness of their offices and their subsidiaries (excluding Scottish and Northern Ireland banks) in England and Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man which are listed by the Bank of England as falling within the monetary sector. ONDON SHARE SERVICE

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Financial Times Wednesday November 6 1985 37 INDUSTRIALS—Continued | 202 | Long Processor | 365 at | 485 24 | 23 | 144 | 177 | 224 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 187 | Film 25th 160m Film 25th 160m Waler Col 25t 11 Law Col 3600 (4 101--) 102100: 25-265 1020: 36-193 255 ... 012: - 37 -106 +4 - - 35 335 +1 +102* 86 11 110 332 +1 97.75 43 35 83 NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS 39 16 223 326 260 Mid Newspapers 275 -- AMPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING 12 134 326 -- PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING 12 34 34 325 32 | Tims | 290 | 180 | Ayer Hatim SM1 | 285 | 5 | 50 | 20 | Secret | 30 | -10 | 175 | 55 | Gaptey Berlag M50 50 | 80 | +2 | 550 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | Color | Colo OVERSEAS TRADERS NOTES PLANTATIONS ers, Palm Oil 780 + 10 7.0 5.0 7.2 100 125 21 18 74 125 21 18 74 125 21 18 74 125 21 18 74 125 21 18 76 125 25 25 26 5.7 | Section | Sect Finance, Land, etc.

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Craig & Rece 11 780
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Sold Stat 11 94
Finish 130 9702 1595
Finish 150 9702 15 "Recent issues" and "Rights" Page 42 (International Edition Page 38) This service is available to every Company dealt in on Stock Exchanges throughout the United Klapdom for a fee of £800 per

.шр_{6.L} е 13%

-5 (Miscel)

A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Dank of Scotland Money Market Cheque Account.

ACCOUNT DEALING DATES
Option

*First Declara- Last Account
Dealings tions Dealings Day
Oct 28 Nov 7 Nov 8 Nov 18
Nov 11 Nov 21 Nov 22 Dec 2
Nov 25 Dec 5 Dec 6 Dec 16

Nov-time dealings may take
place from 9.30 arm two business days
earlier.

Aggressive institutional buying made for a spirited early trade in London equicies and the two main indices spuried to new peaks before reacting later. Opening business was also coloured by hectic first-time in the six-times oversubscribed tender issue of Underwoods shares, which achieved a healthy premium over the striking price. Shortly after the 9.30 am start both indices were posting doubledgure gains. The FT-SE 100 Share Index shot up 15 points to within a few points of 1400 in a highly-charged market. Sparkling half-yearly profits from leading food retailer Sainsbury provided additional buoyancy not only to the sector but also other consumer-durable stocks. sumer-durable stocks.

The upsurge proved too fast for comfort, however, and when the demand faded values began the demand faded values began to ease awaiting the latest money supply and banking statistics. These were announced at 2.30 pm and, at first sight, were considered favourable. But closer examination of the further sharp increase in bank lending coupled with rumours that Sandi Arabia and Venezuela were ready to cut oil prices sent a tremor through the market.

A succession of sales from smaller investors, which repre-sented profit-taking, caused further nervousness in the absence of any fresh institutional

lov 25 Dec 5 Dec 6 Dec 16

"New-time" dealings may take a local form of 10 december 10 december 10 december 10 december 11 december 120 december 120

The banking sector was notable for revived takeover speculation among merchant banks. Hill Samuel moved up 6 to 343p, after 350p, while Kleinwort Benson added 10 to 555p, after 560p, and Brown Shipley improved 5 at 410p. Mercury Securities reflected a recent favourable circular in the wake of the merger with Akroyd and Smithers and closed a further 25 better at 630p, after 645p. Among Hire Purchases, Woodchester, in which Gartmore Information and Financial Trust holds a 7 per cent stake, advanced 7 more to a 1985 peak of 132p.

Leading Breweries finished on

a 1985 peak of 132p.

Leading Breweries finished on a steady-to-firm note despite cautious advices from a number of brokers in the wake of September's disappointing beer production figures. Scottish and Newcastle featured with a gain of 6 to 187p amid hopes of a favourable decision from the Trade and Industry Secretary regarding the company's offer regarding the company's offer for Blackburn-based Matthew Brown, 3 dearer at 440p. Other regionals trended better reflect-

A succession of sales from smaller investors, which represented profit-taking, caused further nervousness in the absence of any fresh institutional support. Many leading shares saw their gains eaten away and with the downturn continuing after-hours the FT-SE index closed a mere 2.5 up on the day at 138.7, after 1395. Similarly the FT of reflect 1395. Similarly the FT of reflect

only marginally higher on balance FINANCIAL TIMES STOCK INDICES

Nov. Nov. Hov. Oct. Oct. Oct. year 5 4 1 51 80 29 age ... 89.60 89.64 89.67 89.64 89.59 89.48 86.33 1073,5 1071,1 1070,6 1069,1 1067,3 1061,3 901,0 PrE Ratio (net) (*).... 11.27 11.26 11.27 11.26 11.19 11.11 10.64

Total bargains (Est. 24,721 25,421 24,523 25,103 24,412 24,572 21,272

Equily turnover Em. — 416.83; 529.57 578.37 676.67 449.67 313.39 Equity bergains — . 24,834 24,321 24,933 24,984 22,648 19,292 Shares traded (mi) - , 230.2 239.4 269.5 301.1 340.8 158.2

♥ 10 am 1081.2, 11 am 1081.7. Mone 1081.4, 1 pm 1029.9. 2 pm 1078.9. 3 pm 1077.7. 4 pm 1073.9. Day's High 1083.2, Day's Low 1072.7.

Basis 100 Govt. Secs. 15/10/26. Fixed Int. 1928. Ordinary 1/7/35. Gold Mines 12/9/55. SE Activity 1974, Latest Index 01-245 2021.

HIGHS AND LOWS

S.E. ACTIVITY INDICES

i	1965		Since Compliatin		ĺ	Nov.	Nov
	High	Low	High	Low	Dally Gilt Edged		
Goyt, Secs.	84,57 (18/10)	78,02 (26/1)	127,4	49,18 (6/1/75)	Bargains		124.3
Fixed Int	90,38 (24/70)	82,17 (25(1)	150.4 (21/11/47)	50.53 (\$/1/75)	Sargains Value 5 dayAverage	160.9 840.5	157.6 107,0
Ordinary	1078,5 (5/11)	911.0 (25/7)	1073.5 (5/11/85)	20.540	Gift Edged Bargains, Equities	130.2	128,2
Gold Mines	536,9 (15/4)	317.6 (6/11)	734,7 (15/2/68)	43.5 (26/19/71)	Bargaing	157.7 1051.1	155,7 1061.

to 54p, the board's confident statement about current trading outwelghted the reduced annual profits. Profit-taking clipped 4 from Ward Holdings at 234p.

month, remained relatively firm and finished 8 higher at 524p.

Mall-orders also closed below best levels with Grattan 6 up at 358p, after 360p. J. Hepworth, 358p, after 360p. J. Hepworth, up to 230p in immediate response to the better-than-expected preliminary figures, reacted to profit-taking and closed 6 cheaper on balance at 220p. In contrast, Goldsmiths, a depressed market in recent

weeks, rallied 10 to 180p.

Electrocomponents reacted from an initial firm level of \$50p Stores below best

Leading Stores often advanced to new highs for the year in initial trading as investors continued to adopt an optimistic view of consumer spending trends. Enthusiasm petered out during the afternoon, however, and many issues finished well below best levels. Burton, up to 583p at one stage, reverted to the overnight 570p, while Weolworth closed only 5 up on from an initial firm level of 350p to end the day 12 down on balance at 333p following the chairman's profits warning which accompanied the interim results. Elsewhere in Electricals, Micro Focus relinquished 10 to 140p following nervous offering ahead of Friday's preliminary figures, while Telemetrix, still reflecting at the chairman's profits warning the chairman's profits warning which accompanied the interim results. Micro Focus relinquished 10 to 140p following nervous offering ahead of Friday's preliminary figures, while Telemetrix, still reflecting at the annual meeting, lost 10 more to 140p. Brikat, on the other hand rose 10 to 235p in response to the results and response to the results and Electronic Bentals drew strength from a broker's circular and closed 3 to the good at 49p. Cable and Wireless, initially higher at 625p in reply to de Zeote and Bevan's circular. reacted late to close the day 5 lower on balance at 600p amid vague rumours that the Government will amounce details of

in the company tomorrow. Laird Group, up 12 at 219p after 221p, on news of their share in the £182m British Rail contract, provided the main feature price cuts or further "net-back

quarter results on settled 5 off at 680p Lasmo ran back 7 did Ultramar to 1989 Australia's Oil Searc more to 1949 in the disappointing dell' in an otherwise relatively quiet Engineering sector. Evered gave up 8 to 223p, while Tf eased 4 to 400p on the lack of any bid developments. Glynwed hardened 4 to 244p on the acquisition of Delta's Birmingham based copper tube business. Belta Group closed 2 better at 171p. Thomas Robinson met fresh support and put on 7 to 145p, while C. H. Balley, reflecting further specularity activity, improved 12 to 204p.

J. Sainsbury advanced to a year's high of 372p before closing a net 6 up at 364p following excellent interim results. Tescs rose 10 to 285p in sympathy. Elsewhere in the Food sector, Unigate found support and firsted 4 to 223p; the interim figures are due on November 27. disappointing drill from Papua New G Golds under lowest levels since n following another we

Gemme Holdings up

Gomme Holdings up

Gomme Holdings reflecting satisfactory preliminary figures and the encouraging statement, advanced 8 to 57p, but Bestwood feil to 380p before closing 5 cheaper at 410p on the £4.2m rights issue accompanied by a dividend and profit forecast. Renewed demand lifted Cockson 13 more to 350p, while bid hopes continued to sustain Barley, up 5 further at 114p, and Blundell Permoglaze, 9 deader at 122p. Dalgety, a dull market of late on worries about the tin crisis, rallied 6 to 448p. Parkfield, still reflecting Press mention, hardened 3 more to 190p, while Keep Trust came to 16c, closing 6 to the good at 96p, after 100p. Bid speculation revived in Cope Allman which picked up 10 at 258p. Booker McCoanell were supported at 305p, up 10, along with Macarthys Pharmazecenticals, 8 firmer at 225p. UDO Holdings responded to the preliminary figures with a gain of 10 at 240p. Leading miscellaneous industrials failed to hold early improvements. Boots, partly reflecting an initial flurry in the stores sector, touched 233p before failing back to close 4 cheaper on the day at 223p.

Paper/Printings again highlighted Delya Packaging which attracted fresh speculative support and advanced 15 for a two-day gain of 27 to 123p; the first-half figures are scheduled for Friday week.

Among Properties, Roschaugh, a soud market of late settled i

a good market of late, settled i down at £17 following the annual results and share sub-division proposal, but Bradford Property results and share sub-division proposal, but Bradford Property Trust rose 10 to 425p in reply to the increased half-year profits. Profit-taking clipped 10 from London and Ediaburgh at 445p. Marier Estates, on the other hand, continued to attract buyers and gained 5 more to 1900

Among Financials, Britansia Arrow met further profitaking and dipped 3 to 149p—still 9 above the unwelcome share-exchange terms from Guinness Peat. Support was noted for VFSTEPDAV Peat. Support was noted for Ivory and Sime, another 7 to the good at a 1985 high of 1820.

Oils easier

Leading oils edged higher for much of the day, but eased after-hours amid rumours that Saudi Arabia is about to announce

decilne:
Leading heavyweights slumped to their lowest levels this year with Randfontein £3‡ down at £39‡ and Buffels ‡ off at £13. Among the cheaper priced stocks Modder "B" dipped 15 to 40p. Consolidated Modderfontein £5 to 188p an Erge 25 to 233p.
Financials were equally depressed with South Africa's "Johanies" £4 down at £40, Middle Wits 50 cheaper at 250p. London domiciled stocks drifted

and New Wits 50 cheaper at 250p.
London domiciled stocks drifted
on lack of interest with Consolidated Gold Fields finally 9 off at
480p.
failed to prevent a further decline
The closure of the Melbourne
market overnight for Cup Day
faile to prevent a further decline
to Sudney London dealers in Sydney. Loudon dealers marked Australians lower at the outset and with Sterling's improvement against the Australian dollar proving an additional depressant, "down-under" min-

ing issues drifted lower through-Concern over the tin crisis on the LME prompted fresh selling of the Cornish producer Geever which dropped to 75p prior to closing a net 10 off at 80p. Malaysian Tins fared better with Ayer Hitam 5 firmer at 205p and Sangei Besi a like amount up at 155p.

Demand for Traded Options improved sharply with total con-tracts done amounting to 11,994. The FT-SE 100 index contract accounted for 957 calls and 943 puts. Elsewhere, operators dis-

YESTERDAY

•					
-				Same	
	British Funds	14	53	41	
	Corpne. Dom. and			•	
	Foreign Boads		11	62	
_	Industrials	344	278	866	
•	Fin. and Props	142	54	352	
-	OHs	79	37	77	
i	Plantations	3	7	8	
	Mines	33	87	67	
?	Others	77	45	94	
	Totals	540	572	1.576	ì

RECENT ISSUES

FOUITIES

Q	close	EQUITIES		
3	deals. BP rose to 568p before easing back to close unaltered	Stock Stock	10 20	
te de fide de la te	on the day at 560p. Shell, scheduled to announce third quarter results on Thursday, settled 5 off at 680p, after 670p. Lasmo ran back 7 to 240p, as did Ultramar to 198p. Elsewhere, Australia's Oil Search dipped 3, more to 194p in the wake of the disappointing drilling report from Papua New Guinea. Golds under pressure South African sectors of	F.P. 9:10: 7 6 Bardesy Pro. Ore. 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	13,00 8.0 191,74 3.7 191,6 2.7 191,6 2.7 191,6 1.7 191,6 1.7 191,6 4.8	1.0 20.1 4.0 10.2 2.0 11.5 3.1 11.5 7.4 12.4 4.4 12.5 5.4 11.5
	mining markets fell away to their lowest levels since mid-July 1983 following another weak performance by the Financial Rand rate. The latter came under sustained pressure in early trading and dipped to a record low against the U.S. dollar before steadying	695 F.P. 8/11 100 90 **Rodius 50 668 5 175 F.P. 1/11 1973 345 82, 100 100 175 175 175 100 F.P. 211 100 97 81rata 100	50 C. 2.5	1.012.1
	after-hours. Gold shares fell rapidly early on, reflecting the absence of any significant support, but later tended to stabilise. Nevertheless, share prices failed to recoup all of their	laste To Took 1986 Stock	, e	\$ + or
3	initial losses and the Gold Mines index retreated a further 5.3 to 217.6 — its eighth successive decline:	87.505:250 - 327a 293a Australia 242 Ln. 2012	995 110	142

FIXED INTEREST STOCKS

-	lasue . price	d up	1 2 2 2	19	85	Stock		+ 01
•	-E	Ęž	350		Low			
	44	£30 F.P.	1	295a 110	100	Australia 941 Ln. 2012 Bank of Greece 107:11. 2010 Bremner 101 Cnv. Una. Ln. 1995 Brit. Banzol 134 Conv. Una. Ln. 1996	110	[프램] 2017년 44월
1	\$96,458 \$100 \$98,324	E25 F.P.	.37:11 28:11 3.12	281a 100% 4414	1001	EstatourneWater 11.7; RedDeb. 2006. 8 EastbourneWater 11.7; RedDeb. 2006. 8 Est. & Gen. Inv. II V. Lettort. Deb. 2016.	1001 131 871	k j ',== - ,==,=,
5	95,603 68,466 100	235 230 250	24/1	32 jg	295	Nampton Tet. 1114 in Netg Ceb 200. Hastemers 1012 ist Mort. 2016. intl. Sk. for Rec. & Dev. 2147 i.e. 2016 ist. Home Loans 65 Cre. Una.Ln. 2006 ist. Home Loans 65 Cre. Una.Ln. 2006 istationwide I in 2 Eds. 15.9/86	44	•
7	196.43	£25	21.2	25% 25%	85	Do. 1134 Bds. 20 10:86 Peschey Prop. 1815 Ist Mort. Deb. 2819 Instand 9125 Cun. Prof. Safeway Doep Die. Stepped Ln. 2811	201	11
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RIGHTS OFFERS

iseue price	Amount pold up	Latest Renunc. date	196 Nigh	Low	Stock	Closing	+ 67
55 60 165 106 100 225	F.P. F.P. F.P. Nill Mill F.P.	27:11 21:11 5/11 6/12 6.12	67 90 227 24pm 36pm 363	65 76 180	Brasway 10p Growther (3) DRG Fisher (Albert) 5p. Gerfunkels' Rest, 10p Mt. Hidge	90 227 24pm 54pm	

Reagnolation date exually last day for dealing free of states daty. A Figure based on prospectus estimates. If Assumed divided and yield. If Divided and Yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1986. If Forest enterwise indipend. It issued by mader. If Officed holders of ordinathers as a "rights." "Instead by may of explanitation. If References the states in connection with reorganization energer or tablewer. If References price. If Dealt in under Rule 535 (3). O Dealt in under Rule 645 (4) (4) the price of the states of the

NEW HIGHS AND

LOWS FOR 1985 NEW HIGHS (151)

NEW LOWS (79) CHEMICALS (1) ELECTRICALS (10)

INUSTE (1) OILS_(7) Cinff OH Ope" Scottwees Magellan Petroleum PLANTATIONE (1) Williamson Tee **OPTIONS**

Pirst Last Last For DealDeal- Dealings lugs tion ment
Nov 4 Nov 15 Feb 6 Feb 17
Nov 18 Nov 29 Feb 20 Mar 3
Dec 2 Dec 13 Mar 6 Mar 17
For rate indications see end of

Unit Trust Service

Unit Trust Service

Money was given for the call
of Vosper, West Coast, Lyle
Shipping, Blyveor, Amstrad,
Stockley, Sound Diffusion,
Juliana's, C. H. Bailey, Western Mining, Plessey, Oil Search and Edmond Holdings. A put was taken out in Dixons, while doubles were arranged in ICC and Aspinall.

FT-ACTUARIES SHARE INDICES

These Indices are the joint compilation of the Financial Times, the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries

EQUITY GROUPS & SUB-SECTIONS						Tues Nov 5 1985							Maa Nor	Fri Nov 1	Thors Oct 31	(alban) abs Aest.
Figures in parentheses show number of stocks per section					iga Me		Day's Chang	E E	4. 2013 2013 2013	Gress Dir. Yield% (ACT at 30%)	Est. PRE Ratio (Net)	nd 44. 1965 to date	index No.	intex No.	index No.	index No.
• 1	CAPITAL GOOL				555		-0.1	34	.36	4.09	12.11	13.8	556.20	557.50	530.0	544.51
2	Building Materia				626		+0.2		48	4.29		15.3		626.23	628.07	503.86
3 4	Contracting, Con Electricals (13)		1 (28)		955 1577		-0.3 -0.5		1.19	4.45		25.9	958.77 1579.6			
5	Electronics (39)				127		-05		.95	3.54	11.04		1283.3			
6	Mechanical Eng			_	324		+0.1		46	, 444		819				
8	Metals and Meta Motors (17)	al Formia	g (7)	****	232 193		+0.4		27	6.89		5.90		1		
20	Other Industrial	Material	s (20)		1017		+0.2		.96 .37	440 355		23.4			194,71	,
21	CONSUMER GI	LOUP (17	77)		755	92	+8.5		53,	3.56	14.72	34.7				
22	Brewers and Dis				776		+4.2		47	3.72		13.92		783.62	775.26	535.39
25 26	Food Manufactu Food Retailing (·····	*****	553 1725		+0.6		L67 :	4.44 2.44	12.07 25.53	13.64 23.34		548.32		
27	Health and Hous		oducts (9))	1177		_		48	2.78	15.18	11.5			1470.59	
29	Leisure (24)				736		483		.79	4.48	16.85	23.43	734.65			
32 33	Newspapers, Pul Packaging and P				1890 370		-0.8		끍	5.14 4.20	17.75	276	1		1983.96	
34		46 43			784		~8.2		37	2.74	12.28 20.34	12.16				259.64 512.95
35	Textiles (16)			••••	365	48	+6.5	11		458	9.58	131		355.85	1	
36	Tobaccos (3) OTHER GROUP				824 713		+3.2 +0.7		종	5.45	6.97	39.77		792.52		
41 42	Chemicals (18)_				722		+0./ -0.4		27	4.81 5.44	138	15.37 25.19		700.32 697.85		1
44	Office Equipmen	a (4)			224	ñ	+18		跖	3.91	16.78	6.20				
45	Shipping and Tra		u)		1356		+1.0		25	4.01	16.91	36.20	1342.62	1348.62		195.31
46 48	Miscellaneous (6 Telephone Netwo				900. 991.		+4.9 +1.0		37 34	361 364	17.14	15.64 14.58		870.39	867.97	691.47
49	INDUSTRIAL G		82)		699.		+84		쥙	3.80	13.93	14.90		886.34 6%6.28	884.34 643.21	
51	0is (18)				1155	_	-05	14		758	7.53	69.65			1172.51	555.80 1861.68
591	500 SHARE IND)		738,	43	+8.3	9	96	4.27	12.62	12.56		734.10	734.35	
	FINANCIAL GR	0UP (11	A)	-	523		+0.4	7-	- 1	4.45		34.94		517.57	574.96	4841
62	Banks (6) htsurance (Life)	/O\			513. 805.		+65 +1.2		46	5.77 4.22	8.38	20,13		515.AL		
66	Insurance (Como		·		461		+0.1	12	- 1	4.70	_	23.40	7%,78 401,28	788.45 378.55	783.60 371.65	502.74 252.24
	insurance (Broke	ers) (7)			1226	74	+0.4		27	3.52	29.47	29.71		1216.55	2282.%	823.25
68	Merchant Banks	(11)			275. 694.	31	+13] =	43	4.13		5.50		269.83	279.92	199.83
69	Property (52) Other Financial (2	23)		_	308		+85		35	3.49 5.39	24.69 12.48	12.71 11.66	494.M 306.65	695.03 307.84	694.27 306.19	435.25 251.81
73	Investment Trust	s (207)			629.	_	+83	1 -		3.41		12.63			621.35	558.15
	Mining Finance (253.		-0.3	13.		6.13	811	10.40	253.96	256,18	257.86	285.96
	Overseas Traders ALL-SHARE INI				594./ 674./			12,	57	<u>6,72</u> 4.33	9.34	26.76	594.75	598.42		5%.21
"	WILL-SUMME IN	PER (134		=			+4.3	+=	. 			17.37	(22.51	67215	67E.64	548.61
- 1				H	Jøde: No	1	Day's Chang	Dat Hi		Day's Low	Hov 4	Nov 1	0et 31	0ct 30	0ct 29	Year
\neg	FT-SE 100 SHAI	RE INDE	X		1383						1300.9	1579.0	1577.2	1373.8	1844	1361.4
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	rrice unices	Hov	Day's change		Hor I	xel :		d adļ. 1985	1 3	Low	5)CH3		9.89	9.87	16.58
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-1	ettich Covernment			Г	\neg		_		1 4	4		years		19.72	五元	11.05
- 1	years	119,14	-0.01	119	9.60	0.4	5 I	40.0	5	Coupee	s 15	7695		19.45	18.44	10.57
	-15 years	133,37	-0.06	133	3.45 (. (1	1.87	6	Hìgh		years		18.52	1813	2.97
- 1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			8.4		12.77		Couper		years		10.60	19.79 18.58	21.89 28.72		
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			22	8.2		1.34		Irredec	::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::		<u> </u>	9.75	9.72	9.67		
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7 P	reference	83.20	-6.33	83	1.47 l	_	ŧ	5.77	14	Prefer				1.86	32%	12.85
_				LR	ITISH	SE	VE COO	ENT.	_		(ED 570	C5/C\$				

110.57 +0.10 |110.46

YESTERDAY'S **MONDAY'S ACTIVE STOCKS ACTIVE STOCKS** Mon. closed 392 684 265 480 585 138 £15 441 286 152 41 535 prica 296 450 937 333 220 96 344 425 670 364 187 34 chang +13 -10 +10 -12 - 8 +10 -15 + 8 +10 - 15 + 7

Se	eries ,	Vol.	lov.	Vol.	Feb.	Vol.	iey Last	i Stock
GOLD C GOLD C GOLD C GOLD F	\$320 \$340 8360 \$300	6 45 8	0,40 0.10	20 5	8.50 S	=	. 5.50	is 325.06
		2	lec.		reb	Jun	e	
SILVER C LIS P BIFFL C C C C P P BIFFL C C C P P BIFFL P P	\$650 \$145 Fl.285 Fl.395 Fl.305 Fl.330 Fl.385 Fl.390 Fl.300 Fl.300 Fl.300 Fl.300 Fl.300 Fl.310 Fl.320 Fl.320		10 4.30 2.50 1.30 0,10 2 3.20 5.90 8.70 5 12.80	2 103 100 100 50 8 6 8 	20 13,50 8 6,10 4,30 	100 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	8.80 	\$610 \$143,50 F1,293,80 **
_			ML.	A s	, . 36.		July	,5
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FINANCIAL TIMES WORLD STOCK MARKETS

WALL STREET

Wrestle with profit-takers continues

RENEWED buying of technology and financial service stocks pushed Wall Street to a trading peak at mid-session yesterday, writes Terry Byland in New

However, the market had to fight hard against profit-takers as it sought to fol-low a fresh advance in IBM and other

overseas earners. At the close the Dow Jones industrial average was down 6.99 at 1,396.67.

The bond market was also higher on expectations, which proved correct, that Venezuela would announce oil price cuts. Falling oil prices should keep inflation subdued in the US.

Computer, pharmaceutical, insurance and banking issues were in demand. Analysts expect the Dow 1,400 level to be tested soon if interest rates continue to

Oil price hopes boosted airline stocks, resulting in a gain in the Dow transportation average.

But oil stocks turned easier on renewed nervousness over crude prices. At \$53%, Exxon eased \$% in hefty turnover, and Chevron dipped \$\% to \$37\%. Standard Oil of Ohio edged up \$\% to \$51\%. Heavy trading in IBM took it up \$1%

1981

STOCK MARKET MIDICES

667.25*

160.80*

1,073.5

674.63

738.43

217.6

502.2

99.17

127.2

207.2

DJ Industrials

DJ Transport

FT Ord

FT-SE 100

FT-A 500

TOKYO

Tokyo SE AUSTRALIA

All Ord.

AUSTRIA

CANADA

Portfolio

DESCHARK

FRANÇE

CAC Gen

Ind. Tendance

WEST GERMAN

FAZ-Aktien

Hang Seng

Banca Comm

METHERLAND

ANP-CBS Ger

ANP-CBS Ind

Straits Times

SOUTH AFRICA JSE Golds

JSE Industrials

Madrid SE

SWITZERLAND

Capital int'i

Silver (soot fixing)

Oil (spot Arabian Light)

Copper (cash)

Coffee (Nov)

London

Paris (fixing)

New York (Dec)

Zürich

اظظیری

J&P

NORWAY

Oslo SE SHIGAPORE

ITALY

Metals & Mins

. Credit Aktier

Belgian SE

Toronto Metals & Minks

FT-A All-share

FT Gold mines

FT-A Long gift

S&P Composite 191.80°

1982

1,390,83* 1,389.68 1,229.24

1,380.9

672.51

736.21

222.9

12 820 68 12 808 1 11 374 1

1,019.40 1,018.51 866.95

1,014.6 1,015.5 770.2

501.9

98.81

2,831,48 2,853,22 163,03

1,785.2* 1,780.19 2,019.0

2,702.8" 2,700.14 2,389.8

222.9

126.0

1,729.7 1,781.4 1,088.9

1,692,71 1,702,19 1,027.48

411.46 414.57 214.39

228.7

1,125.7 942.8

124.42 124.41 101.51

1,499.13 1,479.88 1,437.72

5124

233.7

Nov 5 422.55p

Nov 5 \$324.75

\$324.85

\$325.04

£1,872.50 £1,880.00

C952.50

234.4

GOLD (per cunce)

206.5

392.19 286.54

130.33 118.54

229.18 171.54

297.7

140.2

Year ago 189.1

421.10

£950.50

\$325.60

\$326.13

\$325.75

10.27

664.21

160.70

KEY MARKET MONITORS

1984

DE

Lira BFr

8% 9%

1-30

1-10

15-30

TATA

3% July 1990

8% May 2000

10% Mar 1993

10% May 1993

11.80 Feb 2013

12¼ Dec 2012

CHICAGO

8% 32nds of 100%

\$1m points of 100%

\$1m points of 100%

£50,000 32nds of 100%

Dec

Abbot Leb

Federated Dept Stones 10% May 2013

1992

1983

534.79

168.58

1,163.1

549.61

599.84 535.9

461.4

57.80

FT-Actuaries All-Share Index

to \$133%, barely \$5 from the year's peak. Digital Equipment, number two in the data processing industry, jumped \$1½ to \$116%. Data General, recovering strongly from recent weakness, added \$1% to \$42%.

Drug company stocks, also benefiting from belief that the dollar is on the way down, were widely higher. The exception was Merck, the industry leader, which reversed its recent strength to fall

Bristol-Myers bounded ahead \$2% to \$60%. At \$48, Pfizer gained \$%, Upjohn added \$% to \$123% and Smithkline Beckman \$% to \$69%.

Among interest-rate sensitive stocks, the insurance sector stood out. Chubb gained \$1% to \$52%, Aetna Life & Casualty \$1% to \$51% and Continental Corp

Banks extended their recent gains but also had to contend with profit-takers. J. P. Morgan at \$53% added \$% while Bankers Trust was \$% up at \$64% and Citicorp \$% better at \$44%. The Detroit car makers turned higher

on the announcement of late-October sales. General Motors added \$% to \$68%, Chrysler \$% to \$40% and Ford \$% to

Special situations continued to find a ready response in the market. GenCorp at \$61% jumped \$7% after the RKO subsidiary sold its West Coast TV station to Westinghouse - and the market predicted a similar sale of its New York station. Westinghouse, a firm spot recently, eased \$\% to \$42\%.

Delta Air stood out strongly among the domestic carriers, with a gain of \$1% to \$39%. Pan Am at \$8% was \$% up in

1400

1150

1100

STERLING

Nov 5 Previous

1.441

374

299.25

11.4

4.22

75.65

11% 4% 4% 9%

81/4 81/4 81/4 7.70

8.70

9.79

9.97

Day's

-0.03

-0.03

-0.01

-0.05

-0.04

9.86

Price Yield

84% 10.85

101 10.37

99 10.75

95% 11.10

104% 11.75

102 12.00

101%

Price

103752 10.24

1001%2

99°152 103'952

Yield

9.41

9.13

9.33

10.41

1.433

3.745

298.0

4.225

75.65

11'%s

2,525.0 2,521.75

11.4175

1985

CURRENCIES

2.596

207.75

7.9125

2.928

1,750.0

ENTEREST RATES

U.S. BONDS

Price

10011/2

131.60

129.70

126.19

131.37

138.29

Source: Merrill Lynch

Yield

8.68

9.74

9.92

10.18

Nov 5° Duy's change

+0.24

+0.18

+0.23

+0.43

8.33

10.47

103% 11.40

103 11.90

FINANCIAL FUTURES

Latest High

79-09 79-15 78-16 78-26

92.02 92.93 92.92 92.96

92.32 92.33 92.27 92.32

92.03 92.04 91.97 92.03

112-28 113-00 112-25 113-01

Nov 5

Price

101%

52.5

U.S. DOLLAR

2.6135

207.9

7.9675

2.9475

1,762.0

FFr

3-month U.S.\$ 6-month U.S.\$

52.B

On the American Stock Exchange, there was heavy trading in the ADRs o BAT Industries, which added \$% to \$4%. Also active was Wang Laboratories, up \$% at \$18% in response to strength in

other technology issues.

Du Pont fell back from its recent high, as Wall Street began to fear that Seagram, the Canadian drinks group, may sell the 23 per cent stake in the US chemical company acquired during the Conoco bid battle. Busy trading left Du Pont down \$1% at \$61.

Some analysts, nevertheless, believe that Du Pont may buy out the Seagram stake as part of a restructuring deal which would benefit stockholders.

In the credit markets, the yield curve continued to flatten as bond prices rose, but rates were kept firm at the short end by a federal funds rate stubbornly above per cent. Treasury-bill rates added four basis points.

By mid-session, long-dated bonds showed gains of more than a quarter of a point although turnover was moderate. Last week's new Treasury issues were absorbed comfortably.

TOKYO

Rebound on small-lot buying

SMALL-LOT buying by investment trusts and business corporations moved Tokyo share prices slightly higher yesterday, writes Shigeo Nishiwaki of Jiji

The Nikkei market average finished at 12,820.69, up 10.71 from last week's close, after shedding 57.98 at one stage. Trading was very slow at 174m shares, a sharp drop from Friday's 352m. Declines outran advances by 402 to 331, with 158 issues unchanged.

In early trading, electric utilities and oils, which stand to benefit from the yen's rise against the dollar, gained strength on small-lot buying but slackened later.

Tokyo Electric Power advanced Y40 at one stage but ended at Y2,470, unchanged from Saturday's session. Arabian Oil finished unchanged at Y3,480 after gaining Y100.

However, Mitsubishi Estate, Ricoh and Sumitomo Metal Mining, which had been sought by the major securities houses to reflate market activity, lost ground, thus depressing investor enthusiasm. Mitsubishi Estate, the third most active stock with 5.28m shares traded, fell Y10 to Y1,170, Ricoh Y30 to Y1,090 and Sumitomo Y40 to Y1,900.

Blue chips and asset-heavy stocks eas-Hitachi Y2 to Y708 and Mitsui Real Estate Development Y20 to Y1,060.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, the second busiest stock with 8.88m shares changing hands, came under heavy selling pressure, shedding Y18 to Y368. Other large-capital stocks moved narrowly.

Sanko Steamship, the most active with 11m shares traded, was unchanged Issues which are expected to benefit from increased capital spending by elec-

tric power companies firmed with help from small-lot buying. Sumitomo Electric Industries advanced Y22 to Y865, Osaka Transformer Y17 to Y535 and Daimei Telecom Engineering Y24 to Y609. After the close of yesterday's trading session, the Tokyo Stock Exchange an-

nounced it would lower the margin requirement ratio from 60 per cent to 50 per cent, effective today, in a bid to revitalise market activity. Bond prices opened firmer, supported

by speculative trading by securities houses. But both buying and selling dwindled later. The yield on 6.8 per cent government bonds, maturing in December 1994, declined to 6.510 per cent

HONG KONG

INSTITUTIONS triggered a retreat in Hong Kong, pushing the Hang Seng index 9.48 lower to 1,692,71, after the previous session's breaching of the 1,700

Property issues, strong on Monday, suffered in the sell-off as small investors joined in the rebound. Cheung Kong shed 50 cents to HK\$20.50, Sun Hung Kai lost 30 cents to HK\$13.30 and Hongkong Land managed to hold steady at HK\$6.90.

Utilities moved against the trend, with Hongkong Electric 5 cents higher at

SOUTH AFRICA

THE SLIGHTLY weaker bullion price induced an easier showing among Johannesburg gold shares, with most other sectors following suit.
Driefontein shed R1.50 to R50.50 as

Welkom dipped 75 cents to R20.25. Platinums and diamond issues moved in sympathy, with Rustenburg 50 cents cheaper at R24.25 and De Beers 5 cents off at R15.35. Mining financials were

CANADA

INDUSTRIALS displayed a stronger tone in Toronto as oils and mining issues turned lower.

Oils dominated the active list as spot crude oil prices fell in Europe. Texaco Canada traded CS% down to C\$29%, Gulf Canada moved CS% lower to CS20% and Turbo turned 2 cents cheaper at

Banks led a weaker Montreal as utilities and industrials lost ground.

EUROPE

Blue chips succumb in Frankfurt

WHILE most of Europe continued to trade at peak or near-peak levels, Frankfurt fell victim to a severe technical reaction.

Blue chips, which had led the surge to records in previous sessions, surren-dered the most ground. The Commerzbank index dropped 51.7 to 1,729.7 from Monday's record 1,781.4.

Although the consolidation was expected by most brokers, some predicted that profit-taking would continue for at least another session.

News that West German unemployment for October was unchanged at 2.15m and that seasonally adjusted industrial output fell a provisional 0.2 per cent in September had little impact on the market.

Electrical issue AEG was one of the few issues to advance, taking on DM 18.20 to DM 259.70 as investors continue to expect Daimler-Benz to increase its DM 170-a-share offer for the company. In cars, BMW was hardest hit, shed-

ding DM 20 to DM 530 despite its forecast that world group turnover had increased by more than DM 2bn in 1984. Daimler lost DM 6 to DM 1,130.

VW dropped DM 1.30 to DM 389.50 but was pushed higher to DM 410 in postbourse trading on rumours of an imminent rights issue.

Zurich scored substantial gains, to reach peaks for the fourth consecutive

Banks were especially sought, after four of them cut their short-term customer time deposit rates by 4 of a percentage point. Investors expect that cuts in other commercial interest rates will

Bank Leu added SFr 250 to SFr 4,300, Baer Holding SFr 200 to SFr 11,200 and Swiss Bank SFr 3 to SFr 519. UBS rose SFr 20 to SFr 4,820 ahead of news that the bank expects "very gratifying" re-

Insurers were also in demand from foreign investors. Winterthur, still in focus after the company announced on Monday that it planned to issue 50,000 new participation certificates, put on SFr 135 to SFr 4,875. Prices for the inter-

national share offering in Zurich Insurance have been fixed at yesterday's clos-ing quote of SFr 5,725, up SFr 75 from Monday's close. Industrial, chemical and food issues

tomer time deposit rates came too late to influence the market. Stockholm, which is experiencing a surge in market interest due to expecta-tions of a further cut in interest rates,

also scored strong rises.

Bonds were lower as the cut in cus-

ended sharply higher with increases ap-proaching Monday's record rises. The Veckans Affarer all-share index

reached its highest level since January, gaining 7.8 from the previous session to end at 513.9. . Banks, construction issues and prop-

erties were popular while the most active issue was Fermenta, up SKr 250 to SKr 99 after news that it would double. its turnover with the acquisition of two US biotechnology groups.

News of higher third-quarter profits for Akzo helped push Amsterdam higher in late trading. The ANP-CBS general index recorded a peak of 229.0.

Renewed interest from overseas investors led to firmer banks, insurers and publishers. Internationals were mixed. with Akzo, active throughout the day, Fl 3.50 higher at Fl 129.30, and Philips, with third-quarter results due today, 60 cents up at FI 49.30 while Royal Dutch dropped Fl 1.50 to Fl 186.50 and Unilever shaded 70 cents lower to Fl 361.30.

Banks continued to be chased. ABN rose F1 2 to F1 550 and Amro 70 cents to FT 98.50

Paris continued to improve, with confidence boosted by rumours that Thomson-CSF has won a FFr 1bn contract from the US for its defence communica-

tions system. Thomson-CSF rose FFr 29 Skis Rossignol added FFr 85 to FFr L445 and Imetal FFr 2.80 to FFr 74.50.

Consolidation took hold in Brussels after recent sessions of strong gains, and prices ended mixed on the first day of the new forward market.

Vieille-Montagne, reacting to the world tin crisis, had heavy losses for the second consecutive day, to close down BFr 750 to BFr 5,700.

Petrofina fell to profit-taking and lost Monday's gains to end at BFr 6,940,

down BFr 160. Madrid ended mixed with a firmer bias while Milan tended to ease.

Aggressive buying leads to new peaks

AGGRESSIVE institutional buying made for a spirited early showing among London equities, and the two leading indices sprinted to fresh peaks. Specialist multiple retailer Underwoods staged an impressive debut finishing with a healthy 24p first-day premium at 204p while leading food retailer Sainsbury produced sparkling simmorth results and ended the session a

net op higher at 364p. Enthusiasm waned late in the session and was further unsettled by more ominous reports about oil price levels. Profit taking by small investors left the FT Ordinary index only 2.4 higher at a new high of 1,073.5 after hitting an early 1,083.2, and the FT-SE 100 gained 2.8 to a peak 1,383.7, after touching 1,395.9.

Chief price changes, Page 39; Details, Page 38; Share information service, Pages 36-37

AUSTRALIA

THE MELBOURNE Cup horse race distracted investor attention in Australia yesterday as the All Ordinaries index eased 0.7 to 1,014.6. Turnover at 29.2m shares was substantially reduced by the

closure of the Melbourne exchange.

Sydney bargain hunters forced BHP up 12 cents to A\$8.42 while CSR dipped 3 cents to A\$3.42.

Golds were strong, with Central Norseman 20 cents ahead at A\$7.50 and Kidston 14 cents up at A\$5.50. GMK. however, moved against the trend with a 20-cent fall to A\$9.50.

SINGAPORE

MODEST BUYING support and shortcovering firmed Singapore prices and left the Straits Times industrial index 3.91 higher at 767.60. Turnover rose to

16.8m shares from Monday's 12.3m. Grand United Holdings, the most active with 42m changing hands, rose 12 cents to S\$1.53 while Kuala Lumpur Industries, also active, held steady at

July, 1985

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Morgan Stanley International

Salomon Brothers International

Algemene Bank Nederland N.V. Banque Bruxelles Lambert S.A.

Amro International

Bank of Tokyo International

Barclays Merchant Bank Dresdner Bank

Banque Nationale de Paris

Banque Paribas Capital Markets First Interstate Capital Markets IBJ International

Kleinwort, Benson Kredietbank International Group Orion Royal Bank Morgan Guaranty Ltd Swiss Bank Corporation International Limited Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities)

Westdeutsche Landesbank

US\$75,000,000

Vizcaya International N.V.

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in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Notes, notice is hereby given that for the interest Period commencing on November 7, 1985 the Notes will bear interest at the rate of 84%, per annum. The interest payable on the relevant Interest Payment Date, May 7, 1986, against Coupon No. 4 will be US\$421.08 per US\$10,000 Note.

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